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THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!

SONIC



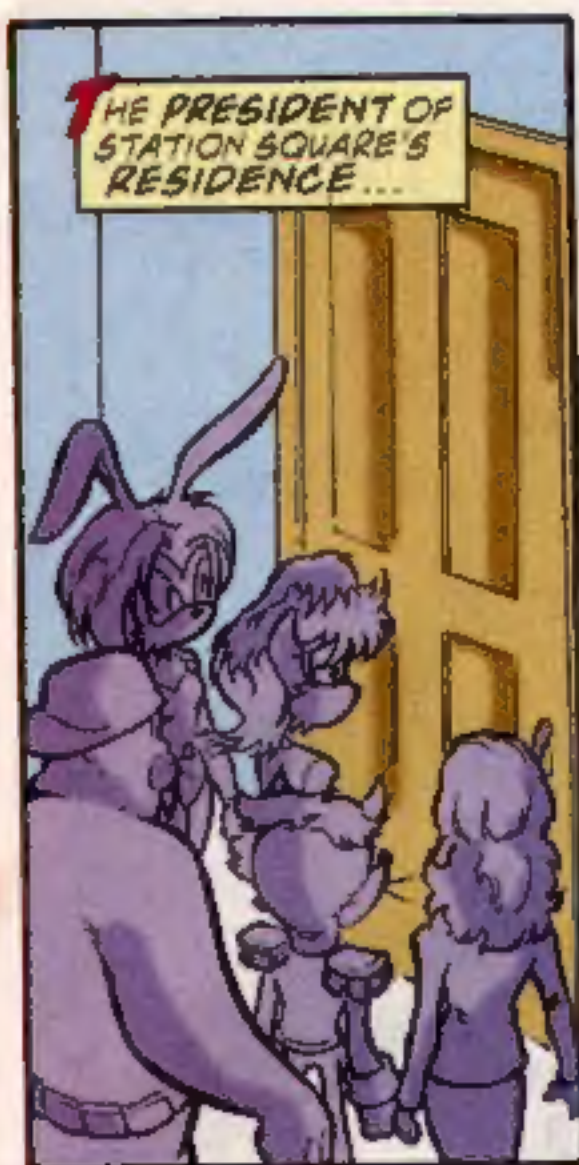
THE HEDGEHOG



Turtlingwing
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SPAR
KING
JRAY



SOON...

FREEDOM
FIGHTERS, THIS
IS COMMANDER
BRASS...

CROUCHING HEDGEHOG 臥藏豬藏龍 HIDDEN DRAGON

PART TWO

...MY MILITARY
STRATEGIST!

~yawn~

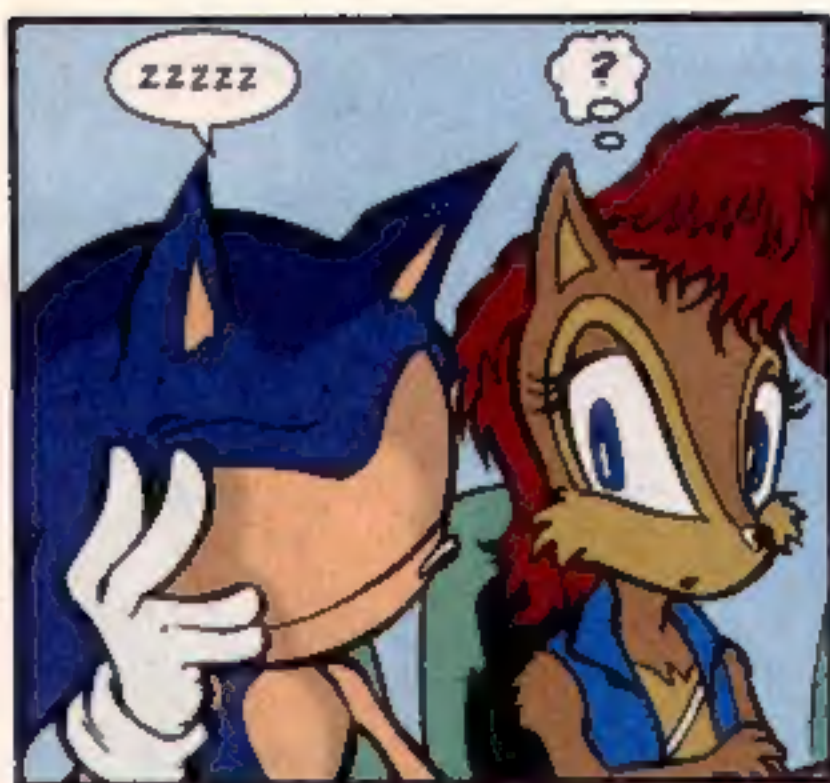
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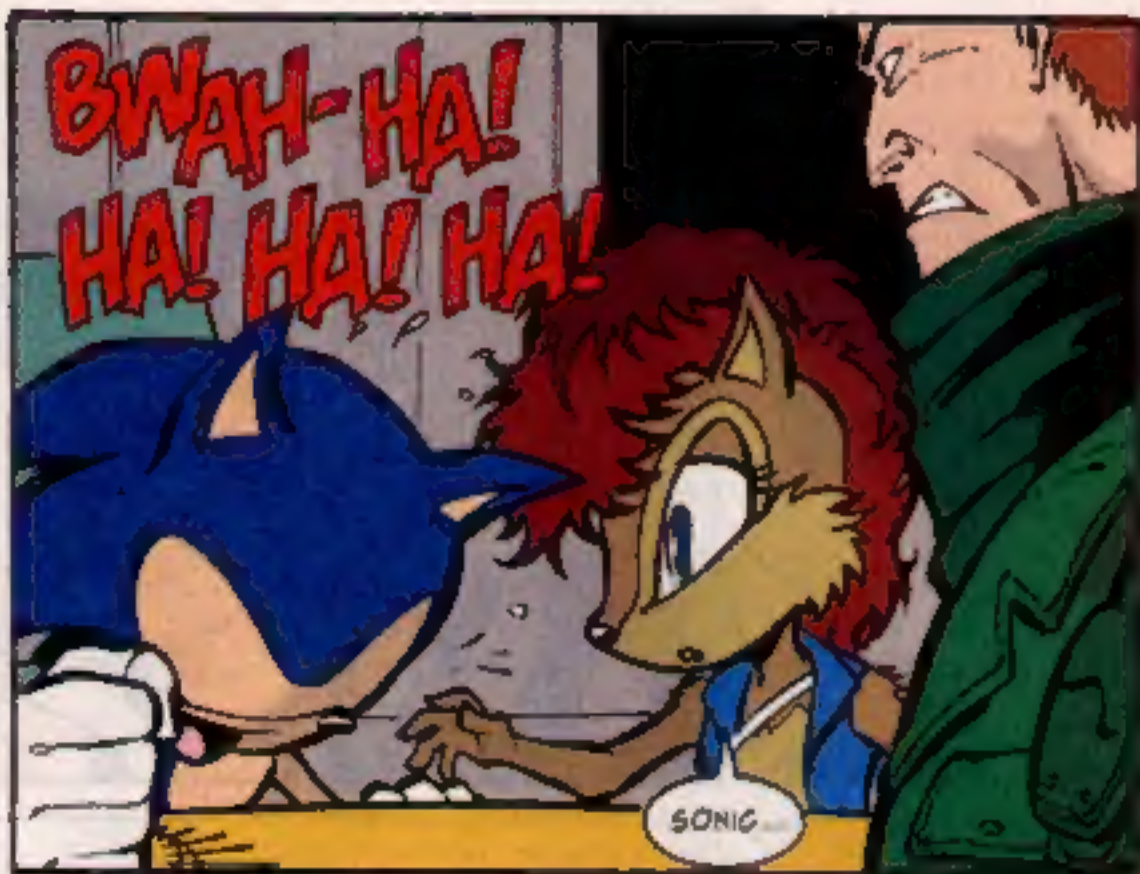
AS YOU CAN SEE
FROM THE VIDEO FOOT-
AGE, THE DRAGON
THREATENS OUR VERY
WAY OF LIFE.*

I ADVISE
IMMEDIATE
TERMINATION--
WITH EXTREME
PREJUDICE!

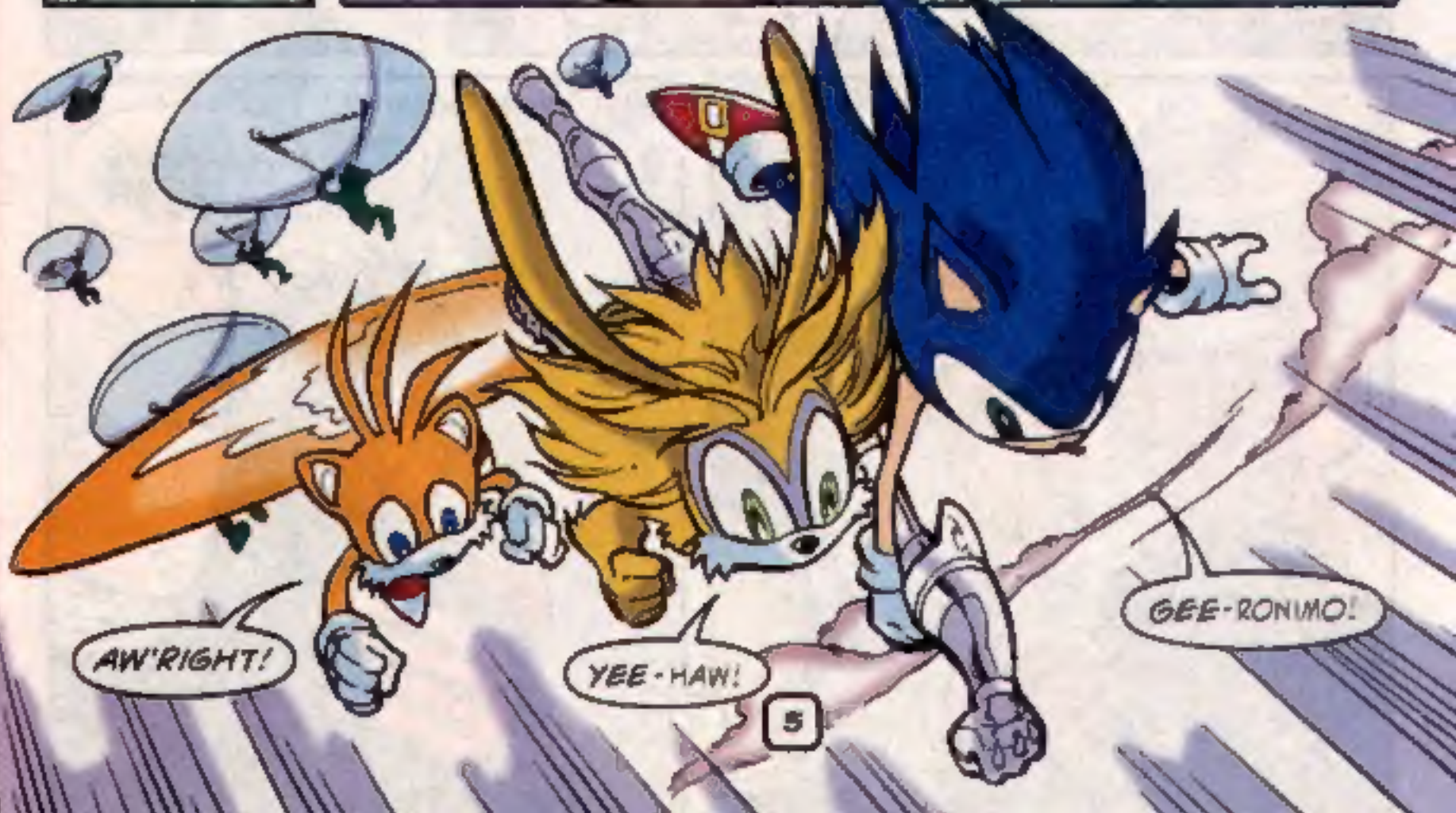
* SEE LAST ISSUE.

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LATER...



MINUTES
LATER...

THIS
ISLAND IS SO
PRETTY!

WHO'D BELIEVE
THAT NASTY DRAGON
WOULD EVER CHOOSE
TO LIVE HERE?

YOU HEAR
SOMETHIN',
RICO?

I--

BUNNIE...
TAILS... YOU
GUYS KNOW
ANY COOL
TUNES?

YOU BET
YUR BLUE
CABOOSE,
SUGAH-HOG!

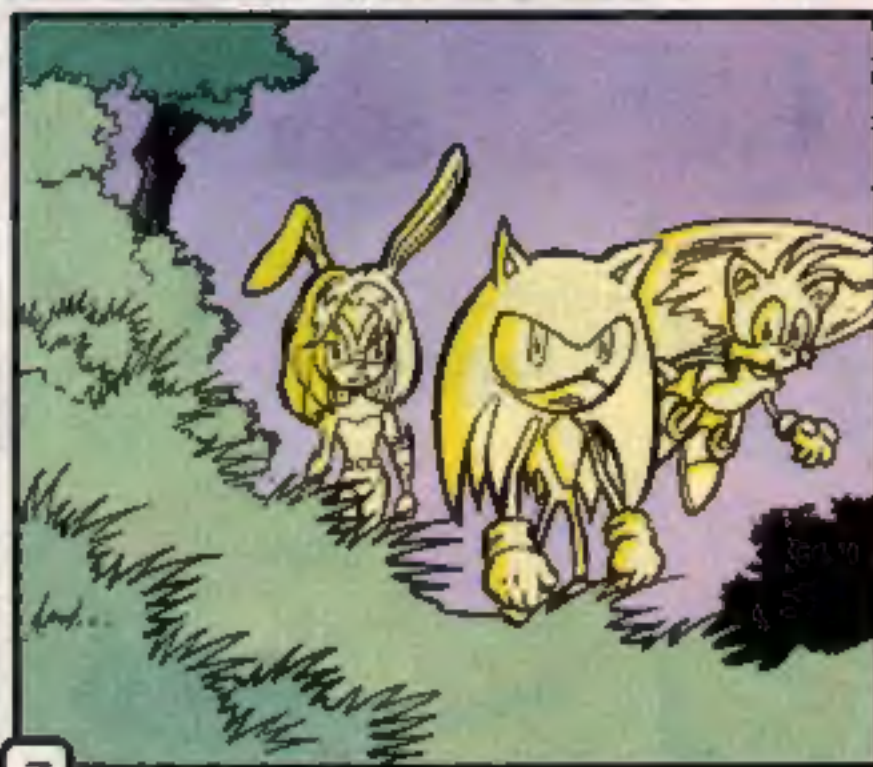
A ONE--
A TWO-- A ONE-
TWO-THREE-
FOUR--

DO YOU
MIND? THIS IS
A SERIOUS
MISSION!

LIGHTEN
UP, DUDE! WE'RE
ONLY--

WAITAMINNIT!

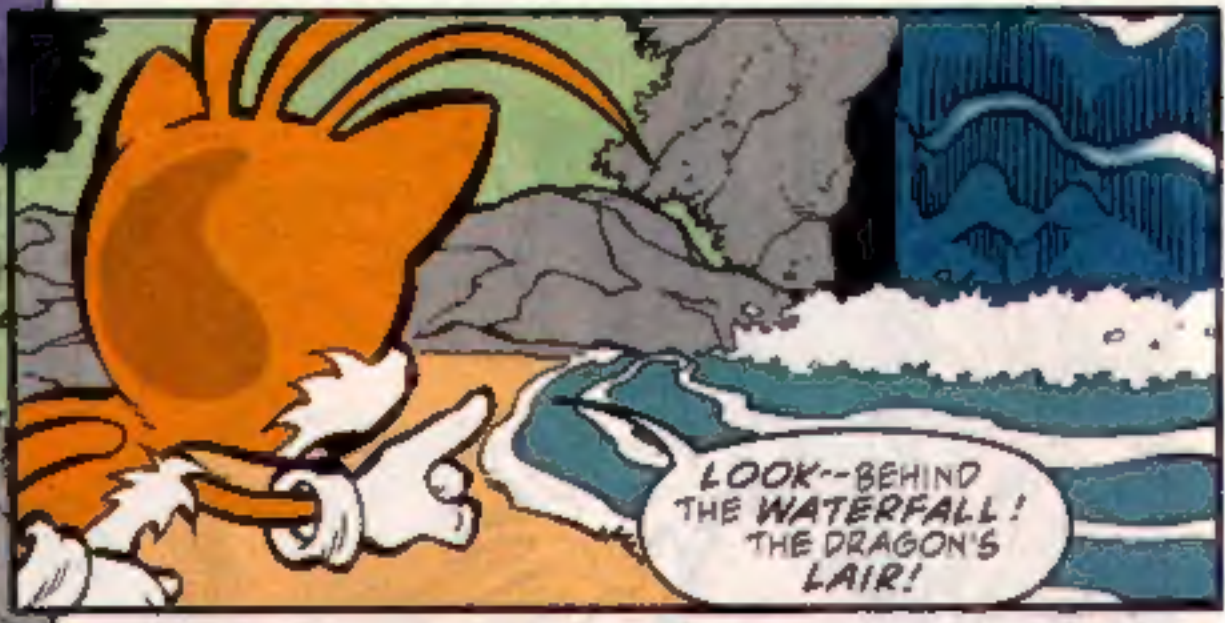
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO RICO AND
SPIKE?



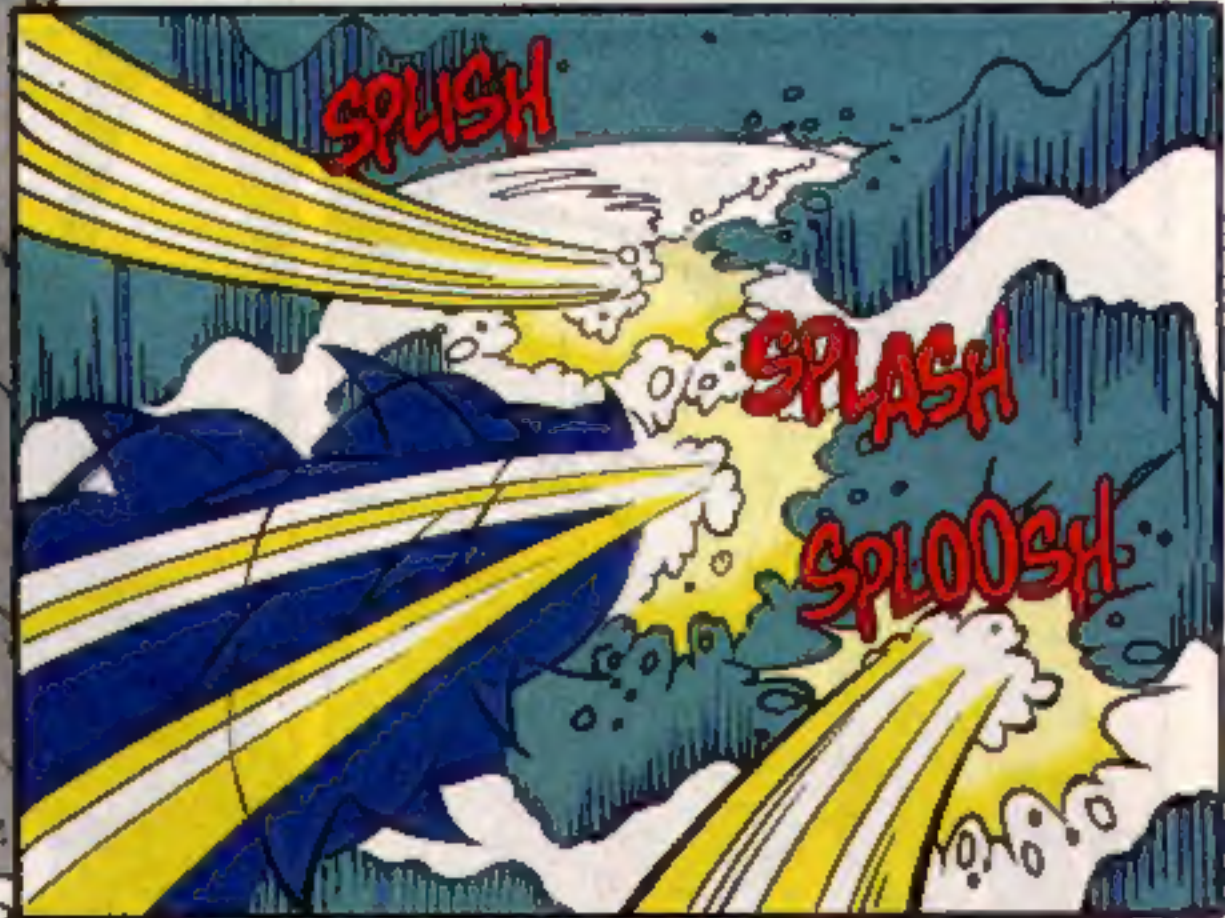


...WHERE
WOULD I
BE?

HMMMM...



LOOK--BEHIND
THE WATERFALL!
THE DRAGON'S
LAIR!

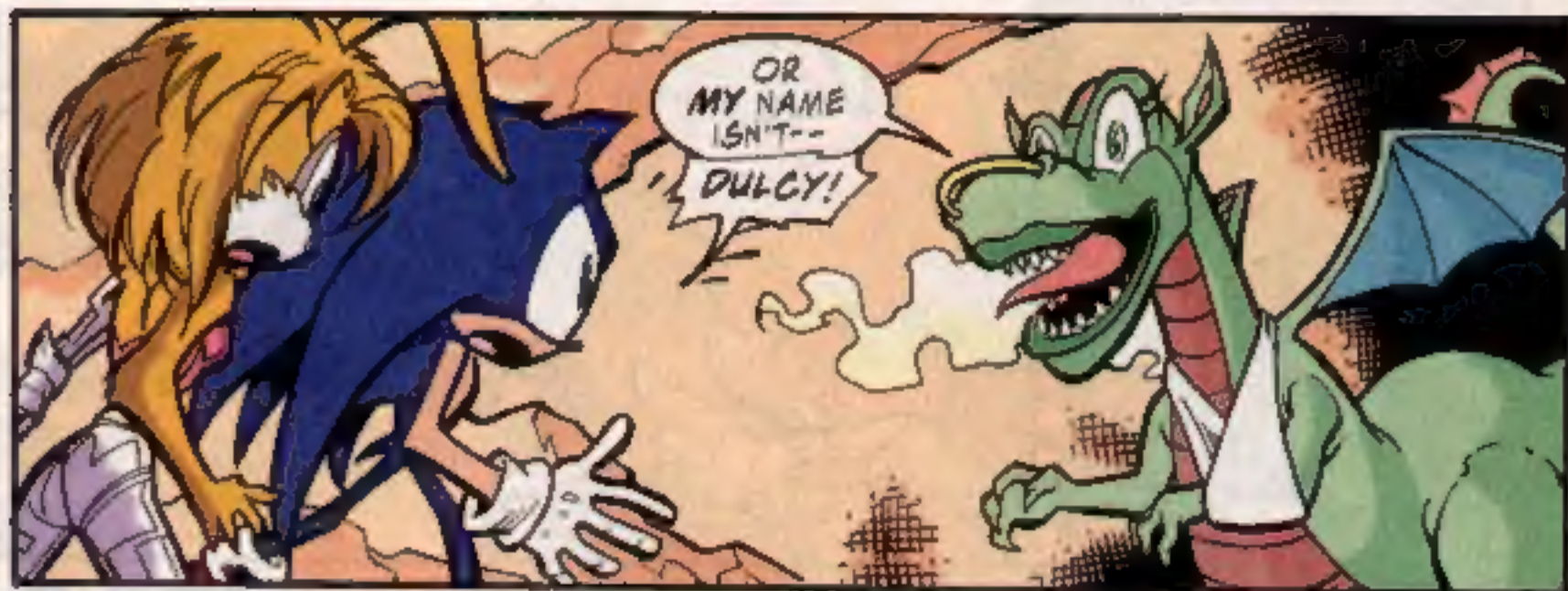


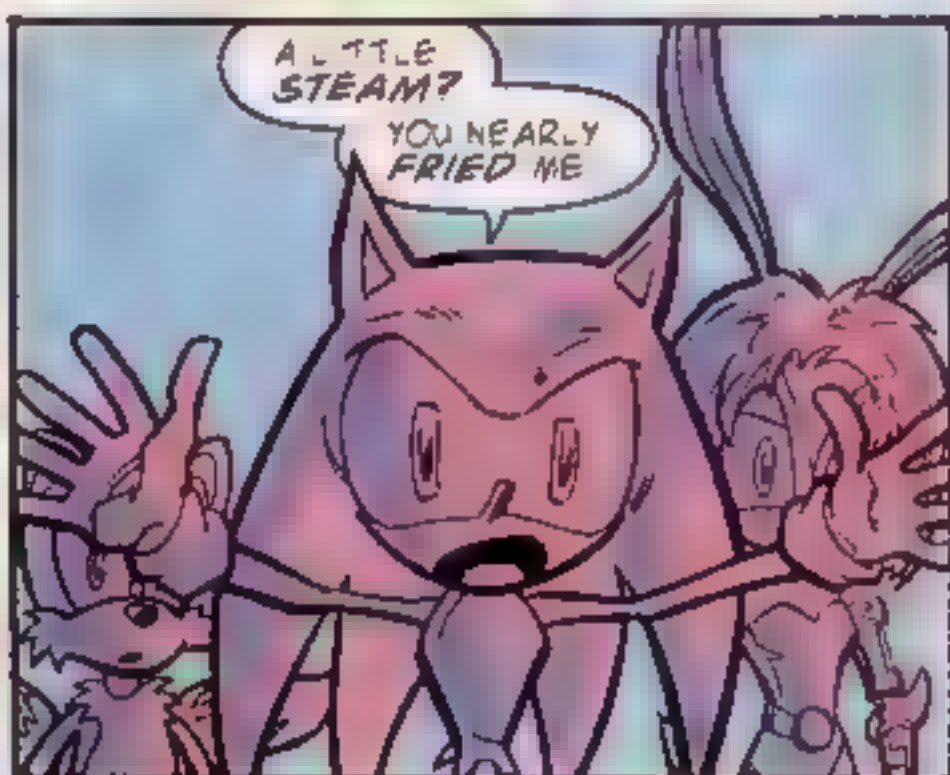
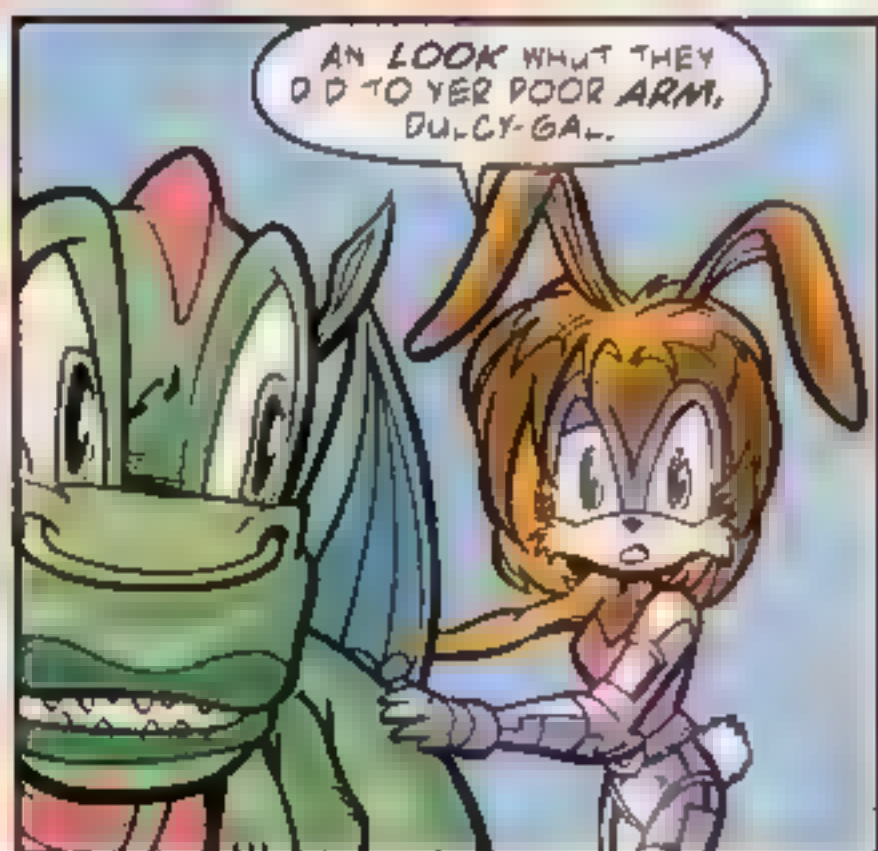
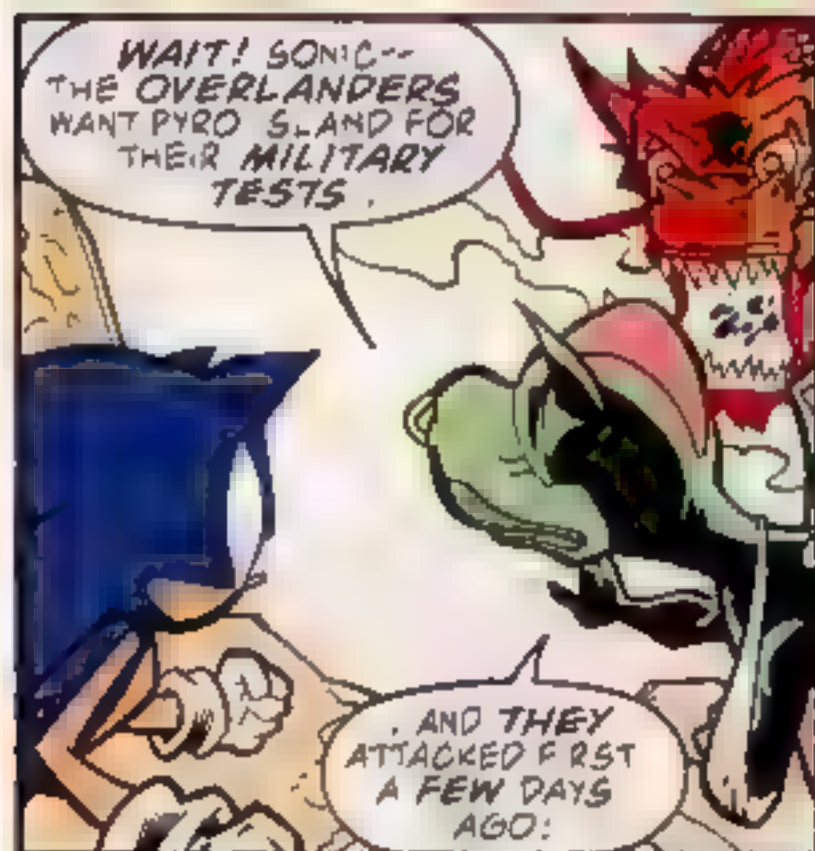
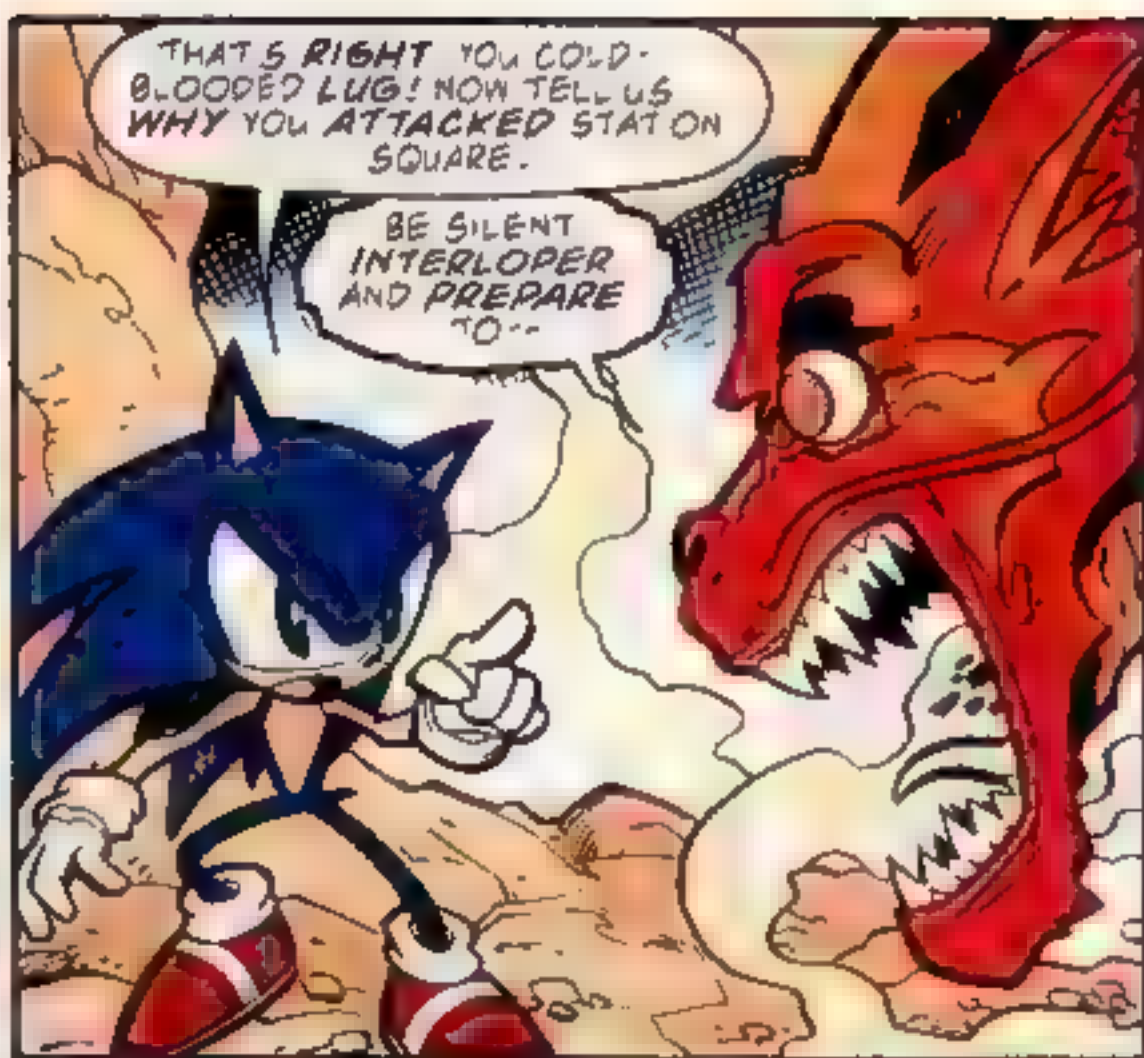
ARE YA SPUTTER-
SURE A DRAGON LIVES
HERE?

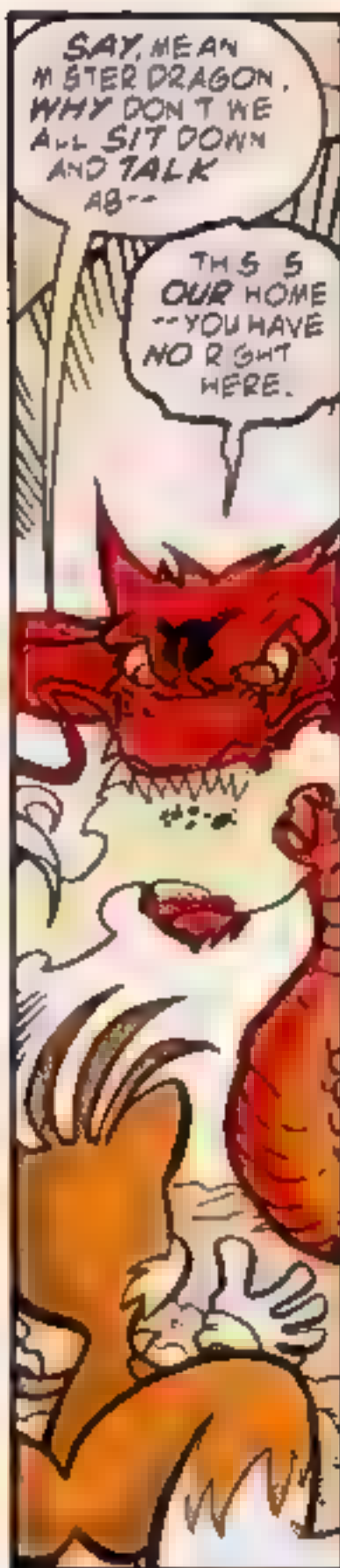


OF COURSE,
BUNNIE!



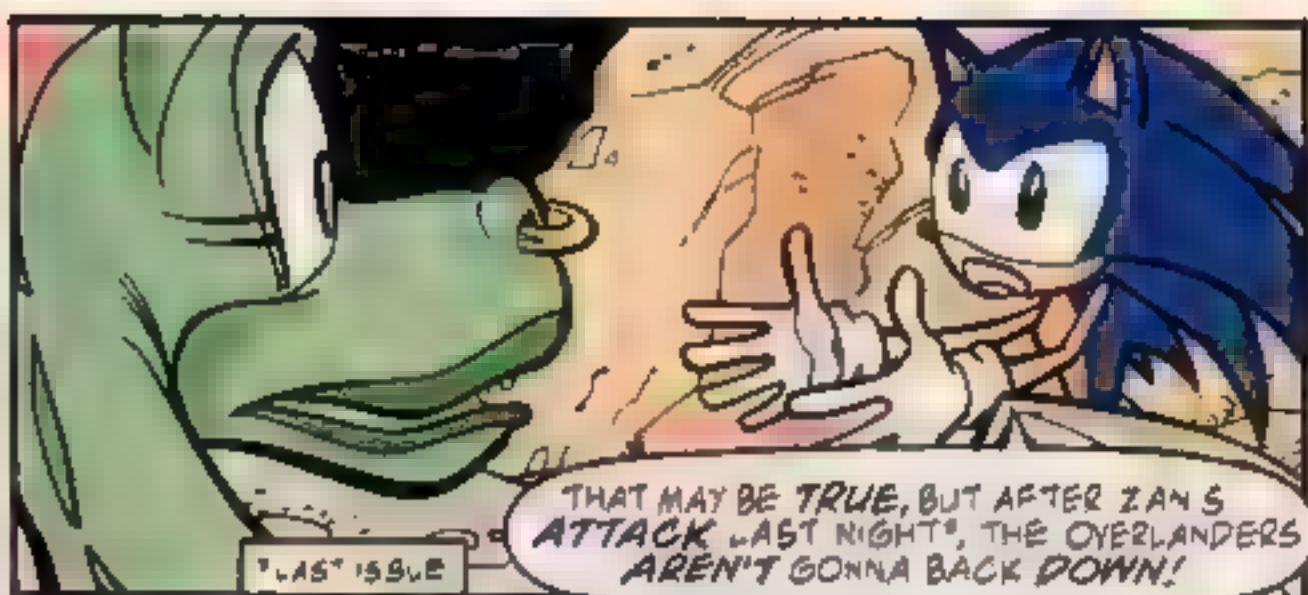






SAY, MEAN
MISTER DRAGON,
WHY DON'T WE
ALL SIT DOWN
AND TALK
AB--

THIS IS
OUR HOME
-- YOU HAVE
NO RIGHT
HERE.



LAST ISSUE

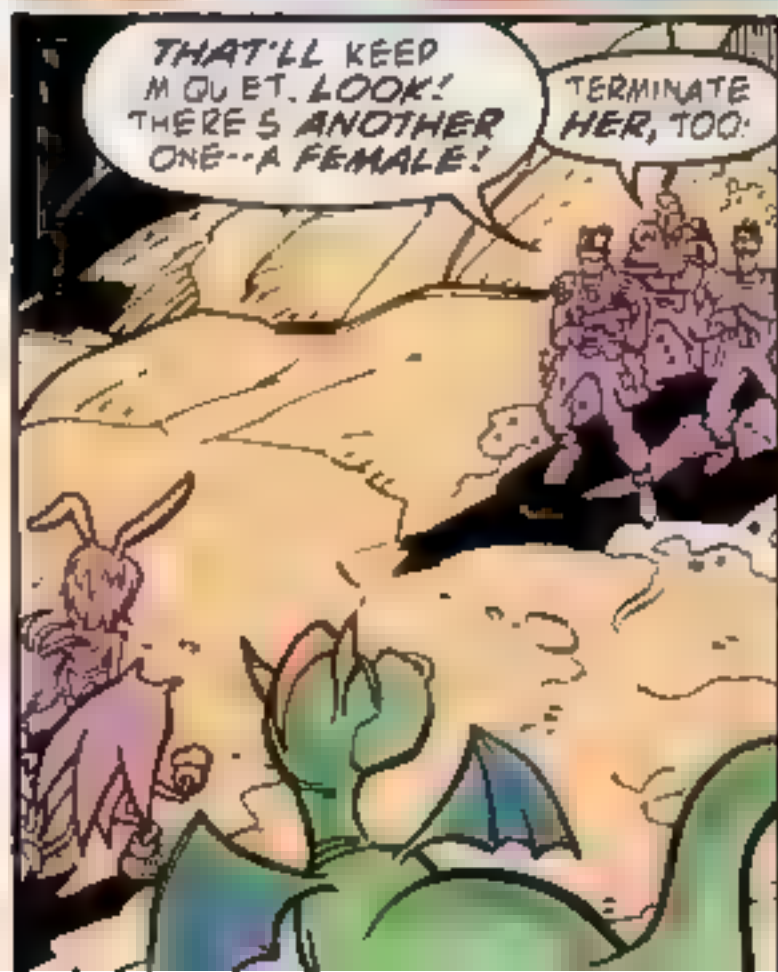
THAT MAY BE TRUE, BUT AFTER ZAN'S
ATTACK LAST NIGHT, THE OVERLANDERS
AREN'T GONNA BACK DOWN!



SO NOW YOU
CHOOSE TO
LISTEN TO THESE
SO-CALLED
"FRIENDS?"

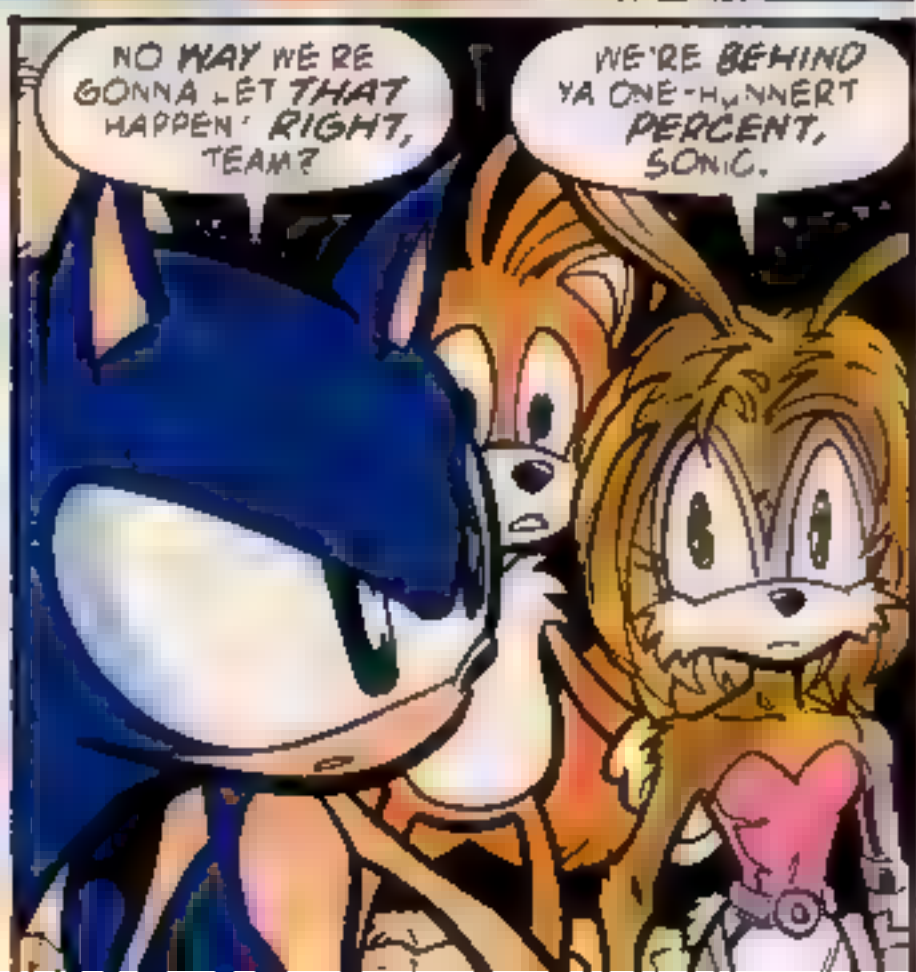
WE'VE GOTTA
TALK THIS OUT
BEFORE SOMEBODY
REALLY GETS
HURT!

WHERE
WERE THEY
WHEN YOU
NEEDED--



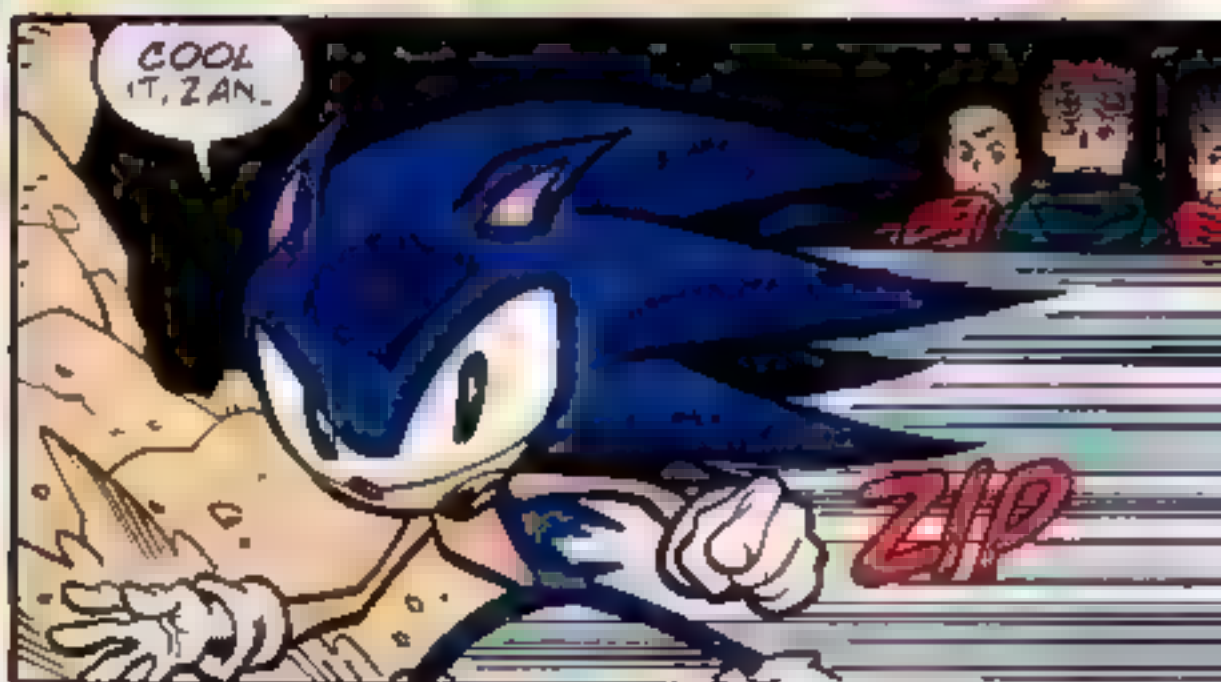
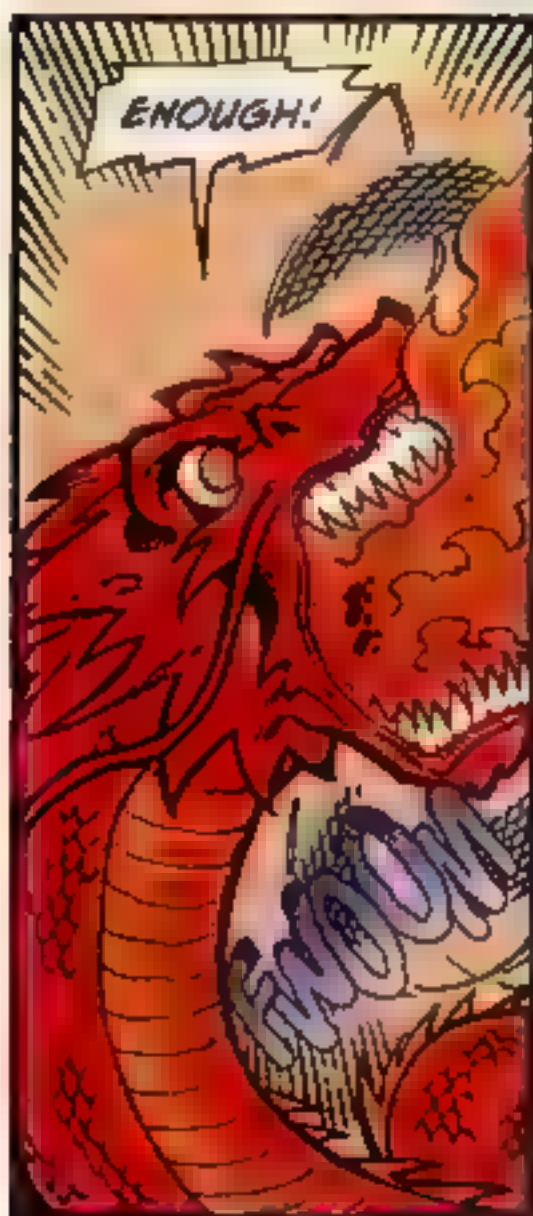
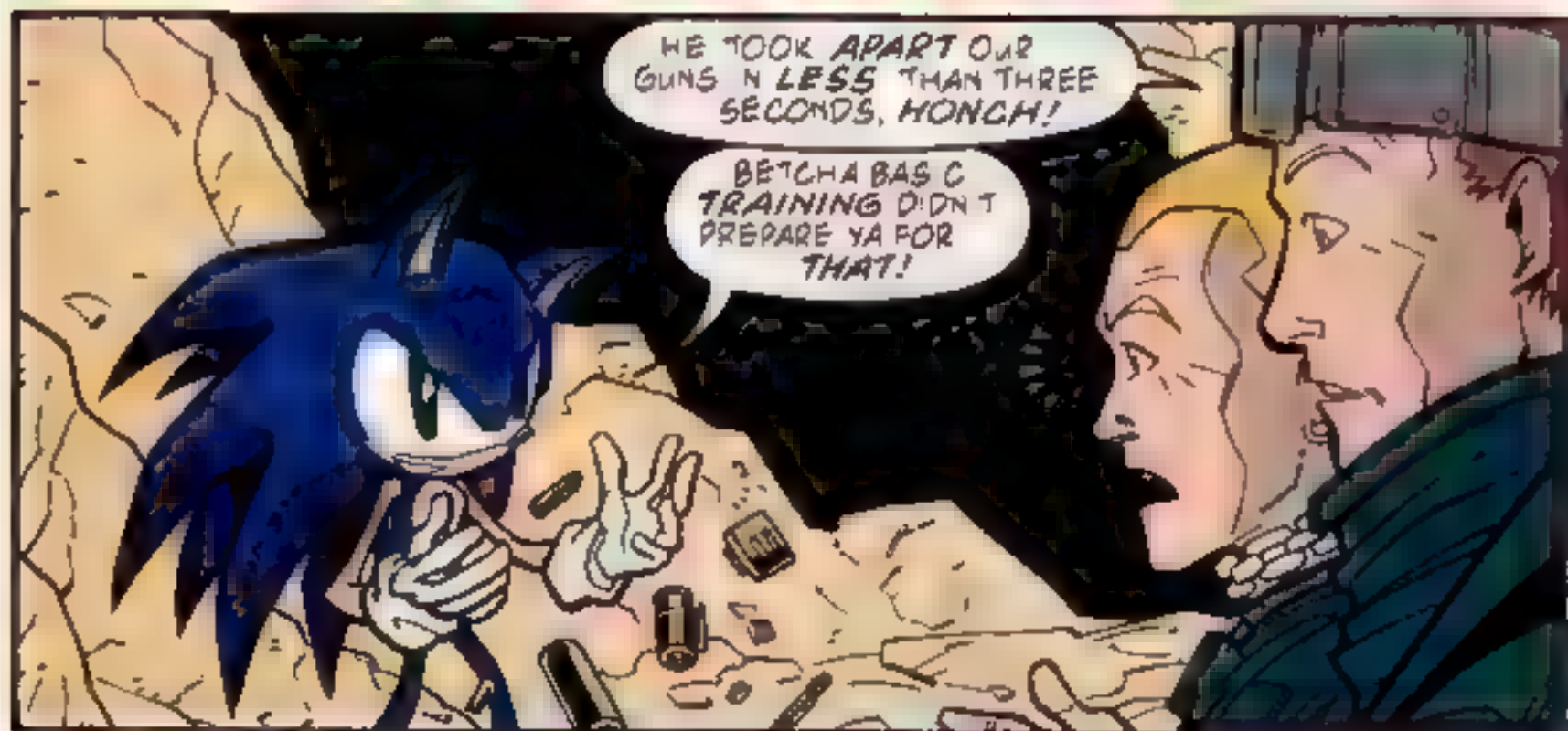
THAT'LL KEEP
M QUIET. LOOK!
THERE'S ANOTHER
ONE-- A FEMALE!

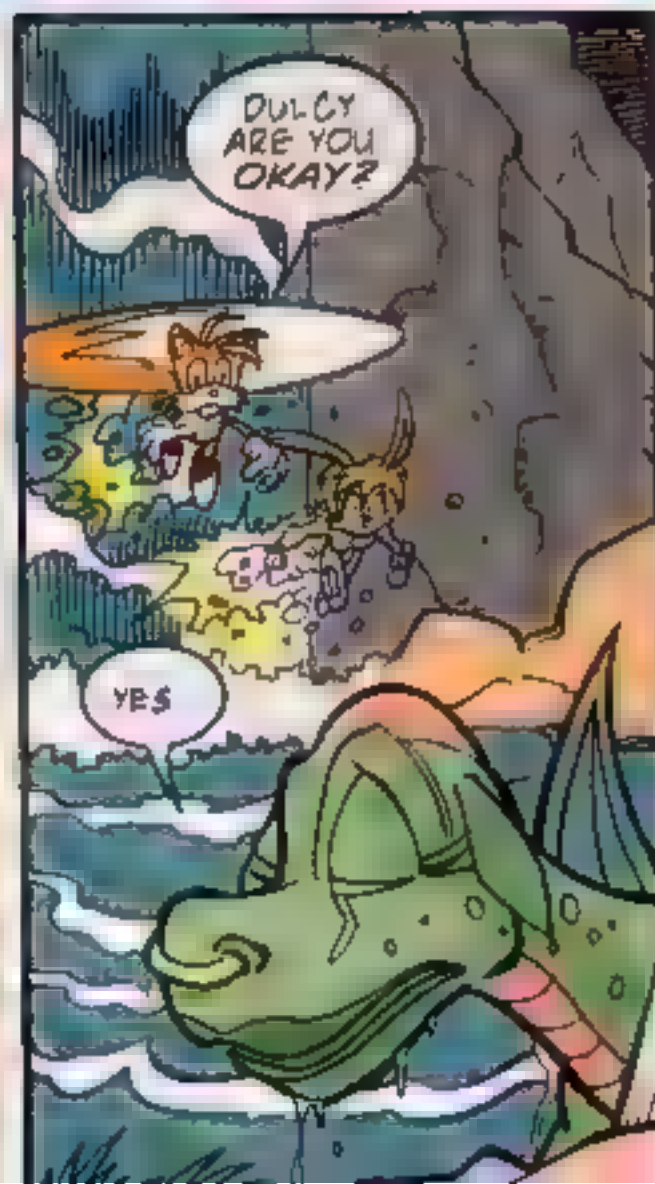
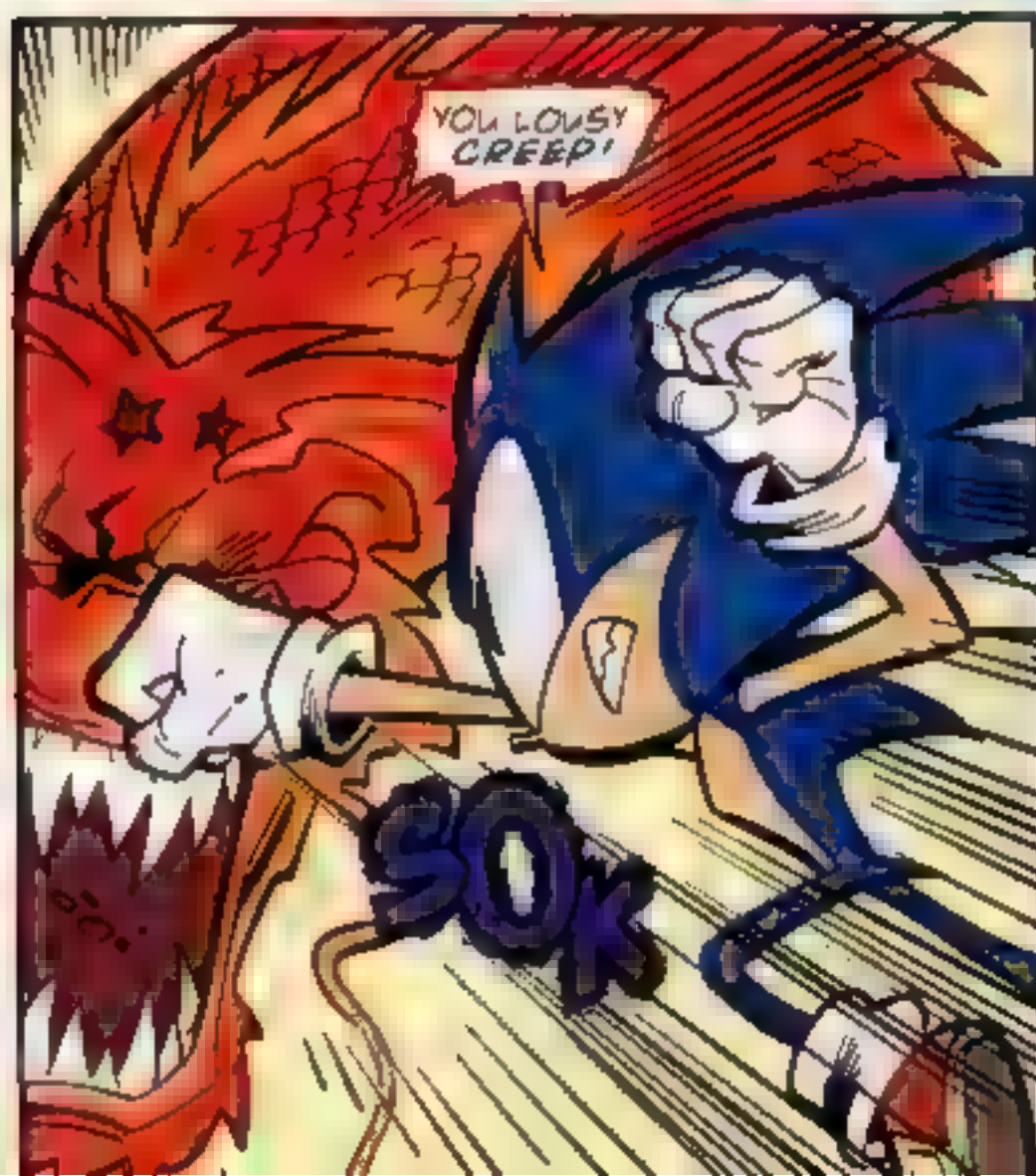
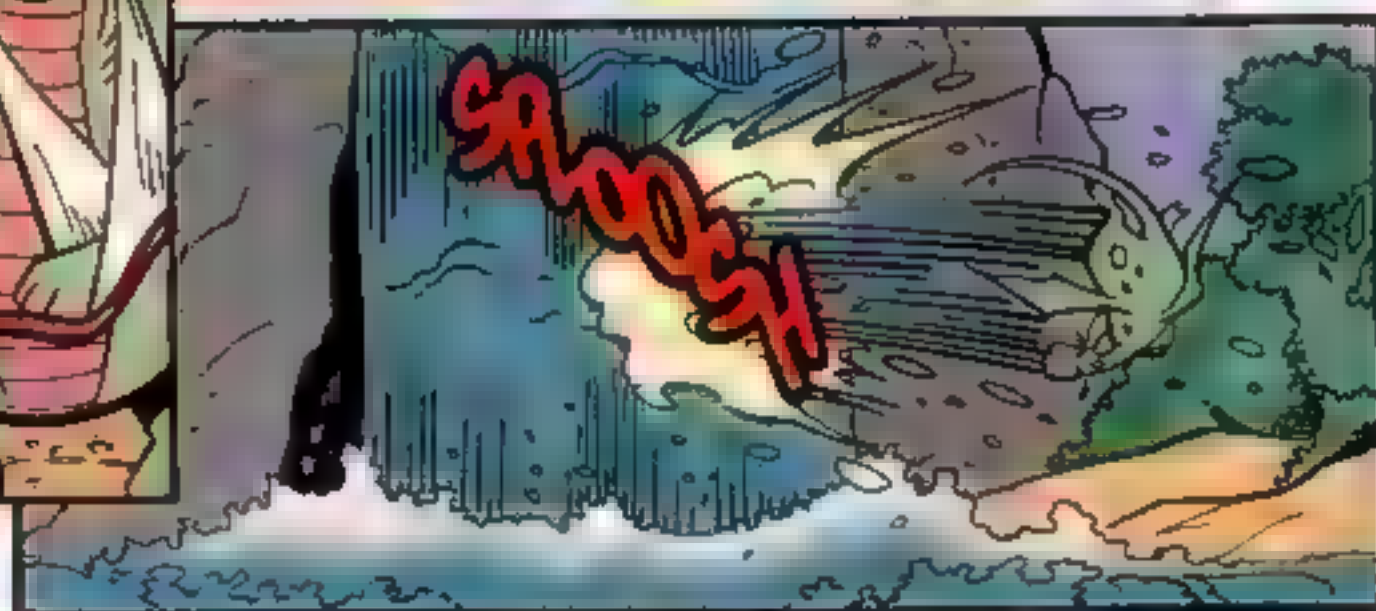
TERMINATE
HER, TOO!

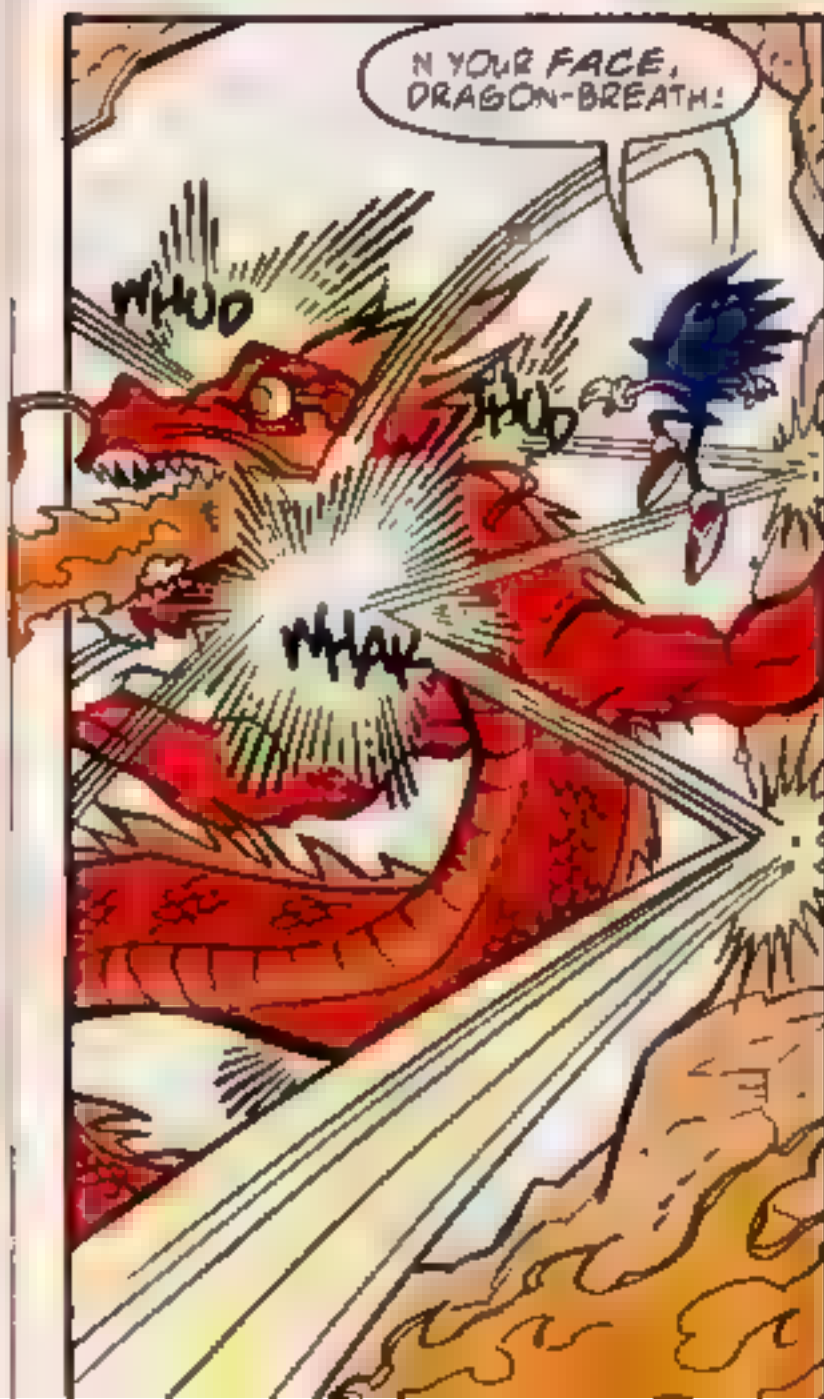
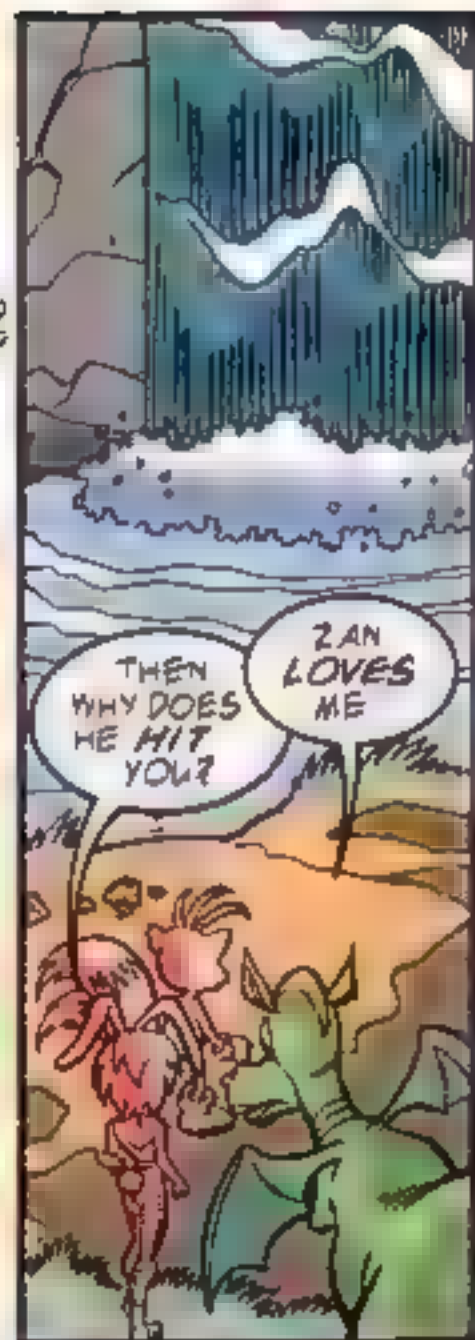
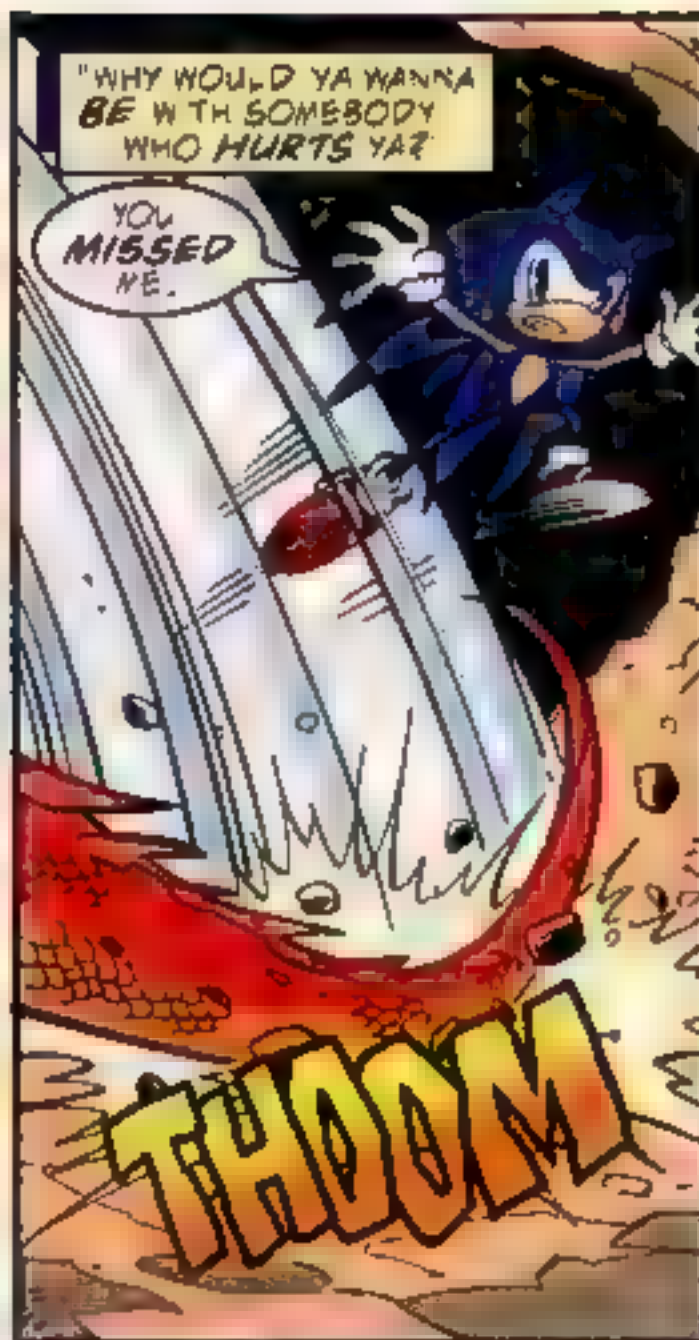
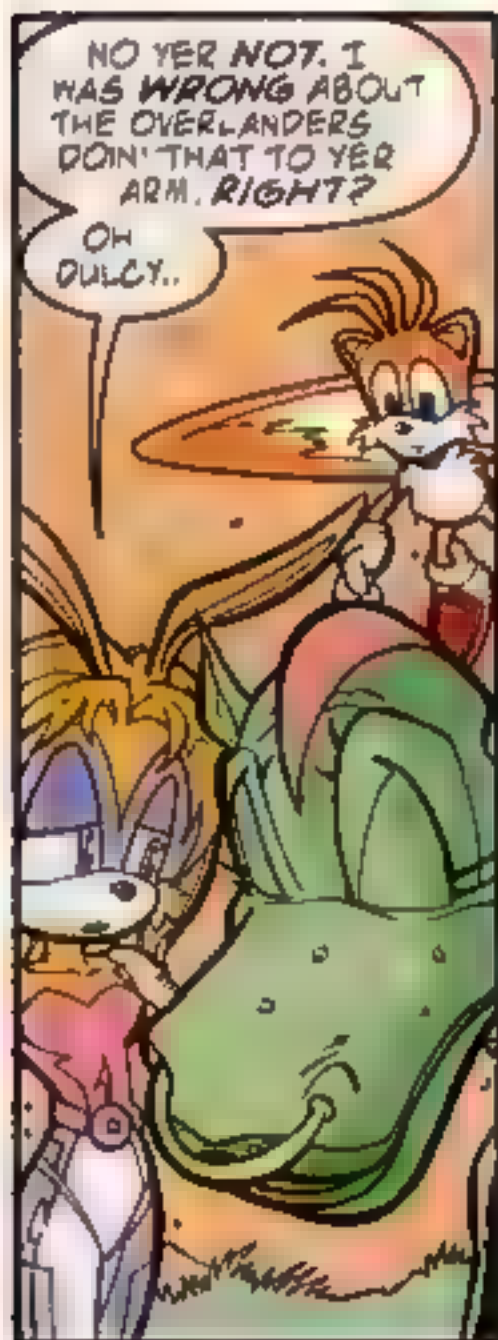


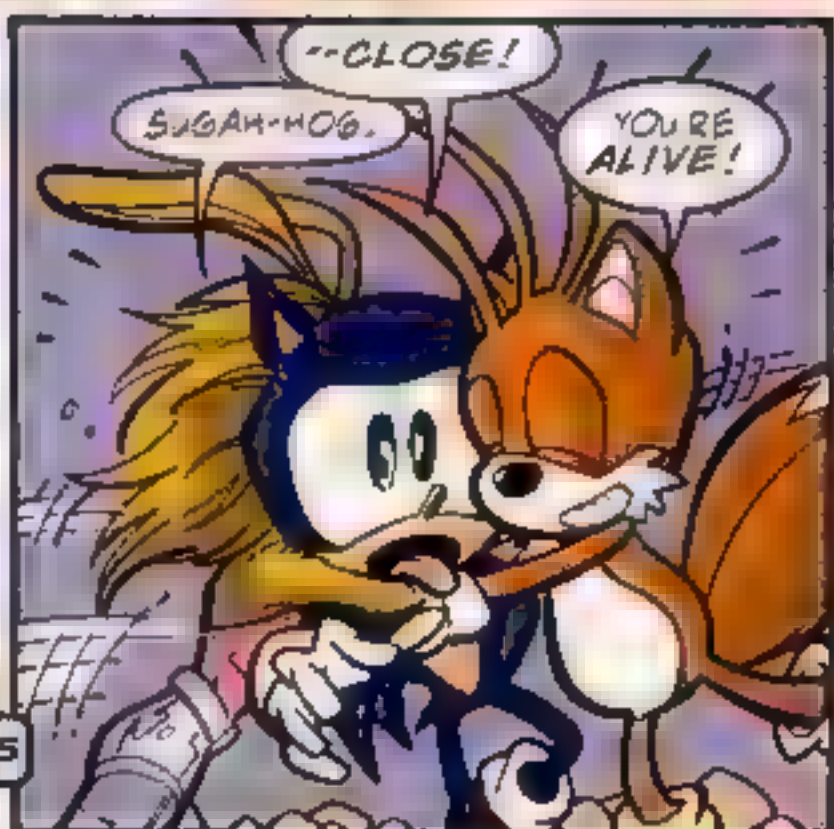
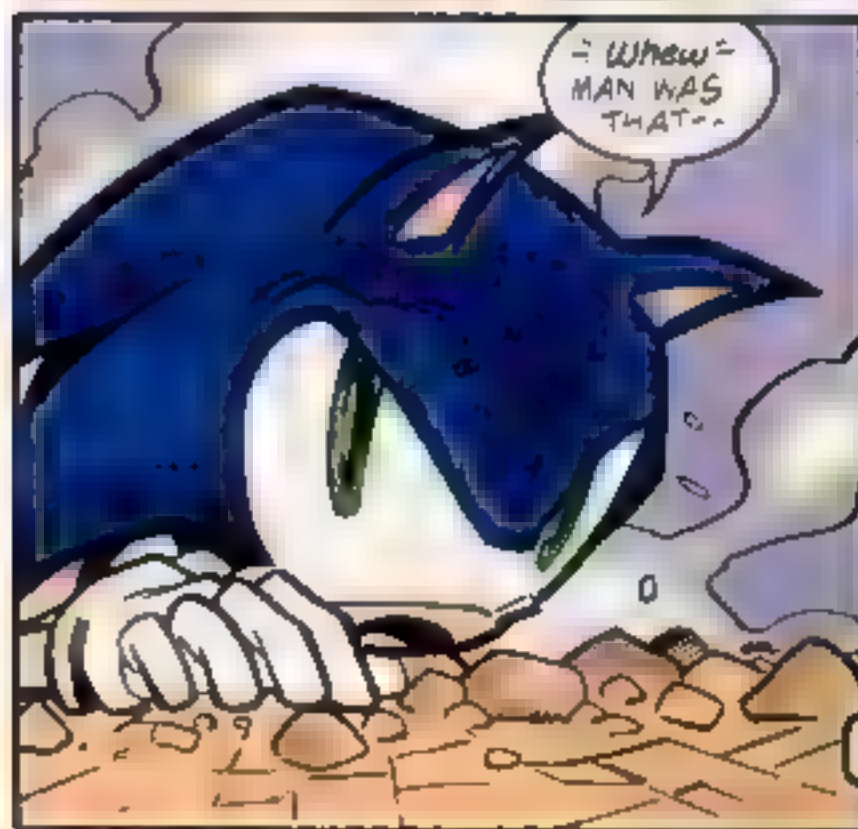
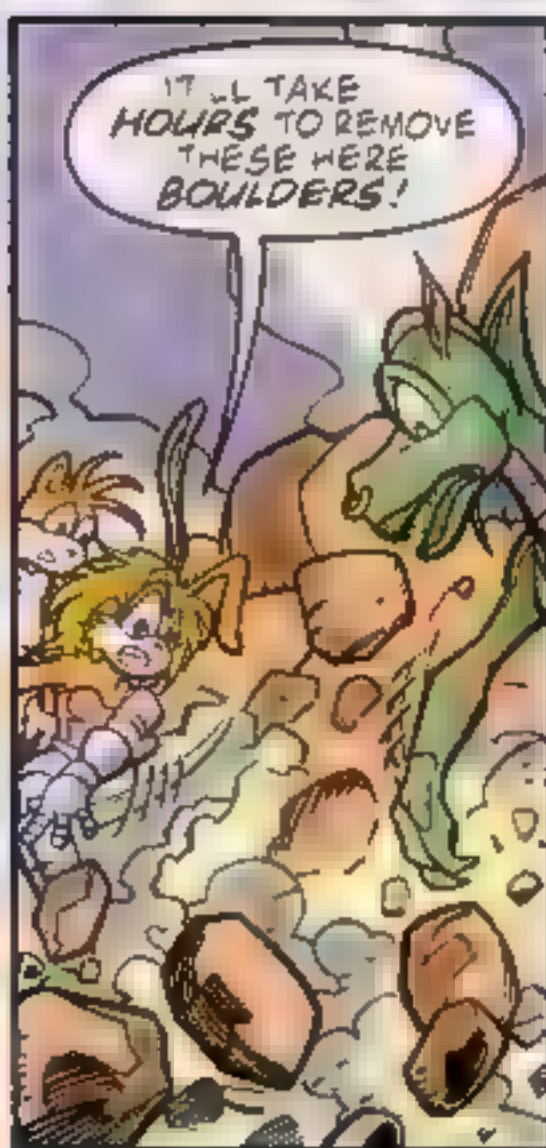
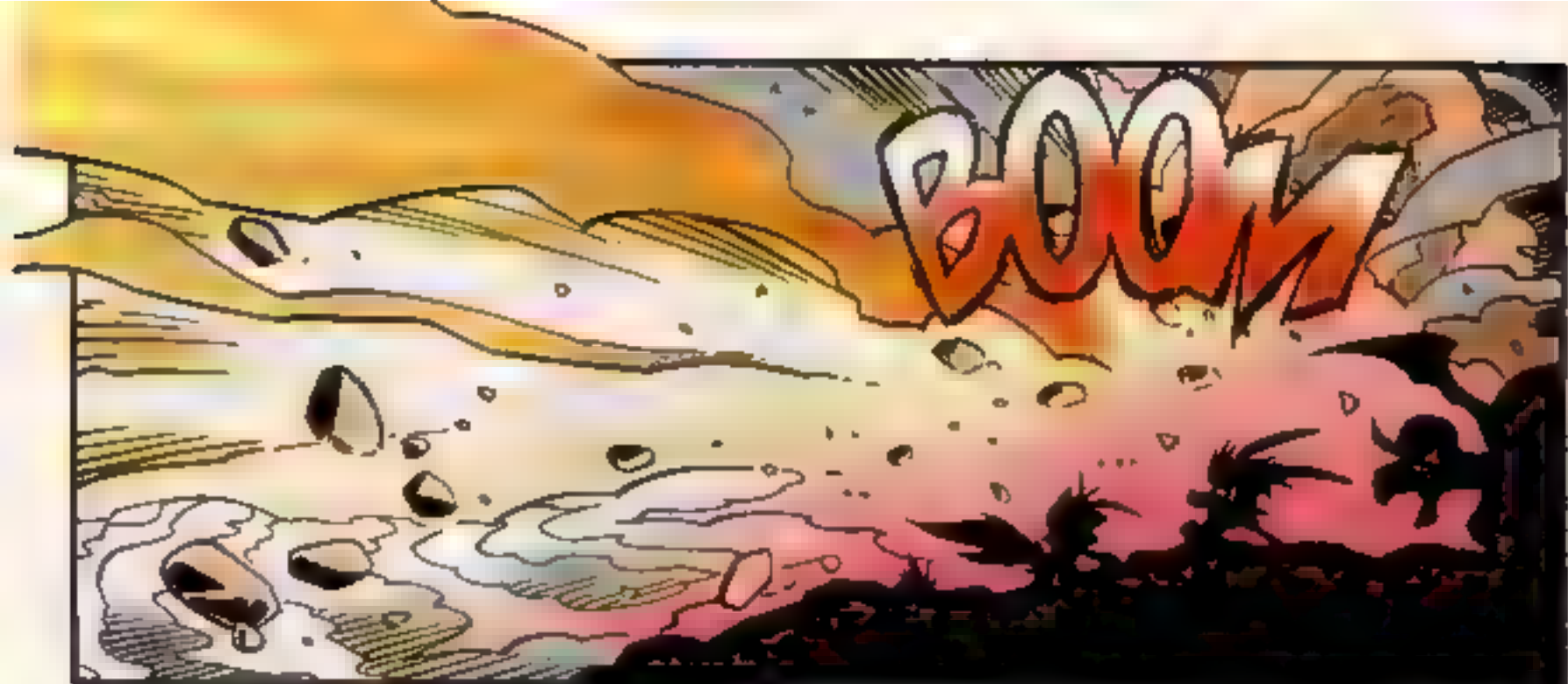
NO WAY WE'RE
GONNA LET THAT
HAPPEN! RIGHT,
TEAM?

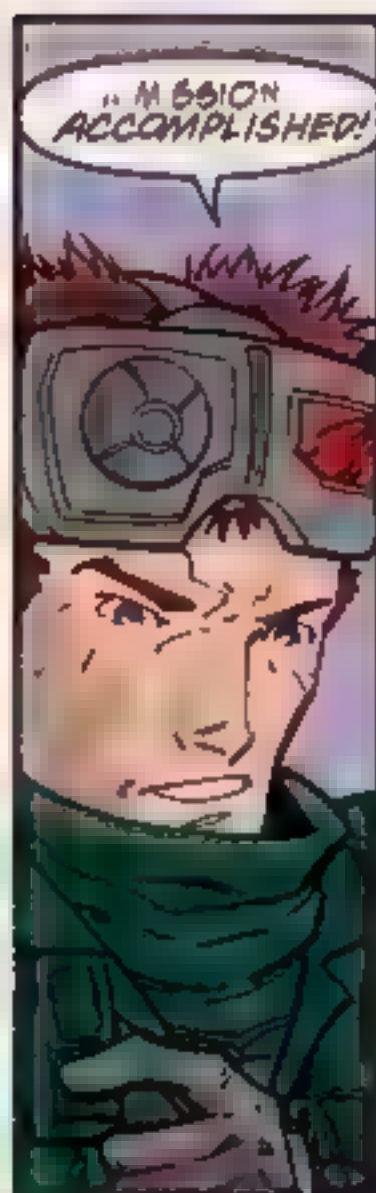
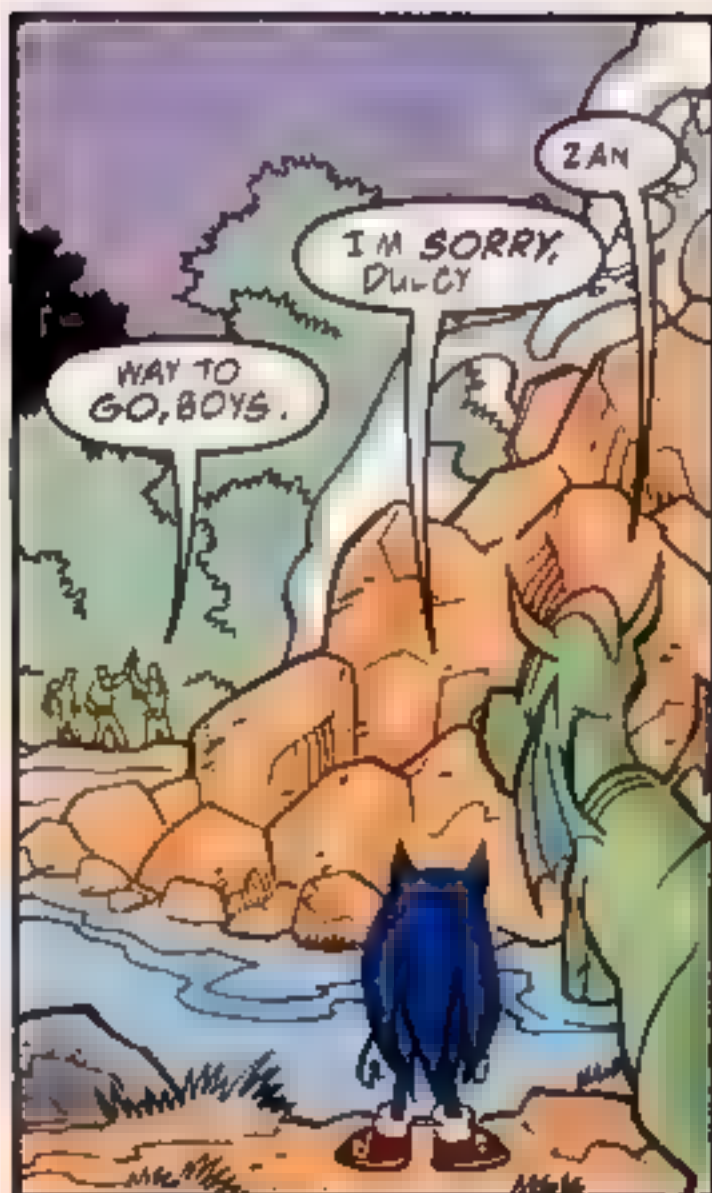
WE'RE BEHIND
YA ONE-HUNNERT
PERCENT,
SONIC.













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SEGA DATA FILE: 8

DULCYN

FIRST APPEARANCE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #29
December 1995

FULL NAME: Dulcinea (AKA "Dulcy")

BORN: 235 / 3223

HEIGHT: 166 marks WEIGHT: 23 stone

HAIR: peach-orange

EYES: green

WINGSPAN: 118 marks

ABILITIES: Fire-breather, capable of flight over limited distances

KNOWN FAMILY: Sabina (mother - roboticized)

KNOWN FRIENDS: Princess Sally, Sonic, Tails, Rotor, Bunnie Rab-bat, Amy Rose

HISTORY Long believed to be mythological creatures, dragons did not exist in plain view until only recently in Mobius history, after discovering creatures other than the original human inhabitants were now the dominant life-forms.

For once, the dragons were able to lead a peaceful co-existence with their neighbors, and the sight of whole families of dragons flying through the skies soon became a familiar one. They also became renowned for their superb tracking skills, reuniting many a lost child who had strayed from a pack.

Many decades later, when Robotnik came to power, he began systematically roboticizing the dragon species first, as he recognized them to be among the most dangerous threats to his plans. He nearly succeeded completely until a young mother named Sabina sought sanctuary for her daughter Dulcinea with the Princess, Sally. Shortly after securing her daughter's safety, Robotnik had Sabina captured and roboticized.

As the years passed, Dulcinea -- or rather, Dulcy, as she was more commonly referred to by her closest friends -- grew to full height and joined the Freedom Fighters in their struggle against the first Robotnik and now against the latest incarnation.

Currently, she lives mostly outdoors due to her massive size, and can be usually found sleeping upside down with her tail curled around a tree branch for support. She has an instinct for being able to sense danger from afar and can always be counted on to tell the truth, as well as recognize when others are not.



HEY, KIDS!
IF YOU WANT TO
SEE WHO THE *MYSTERY*
CHARACTER IS, YOU'LL
HAVE TO *CONNECT*
THE DOTS!



SIMPLY CONNECT
ONLY THOSE HAVING
THE *SAME COLOR!* FOR
EXAMPLE, THOSE LABELLED
RED CONNECT ONLY TO
THOSE LABELLED THE
SAME WAY, AND
SO ON!



UNKNOWN TO DIMITRI AND HIS DARK LEGION, A MYSTERIOUS ECHIDNA OF THE FEMALE PERSUASION HAS COME IN SEARCH OF

KNUCKLES

IN ORDER TO PREVENT A GREAT TRAGEDY!

HE'S FREED THEM!!!

THE TREACHEROUS RODENT ACTUALLY UNDOED THE EFFECTS OF THE QUANTUM BEAM --

-- RESTORING THE "GOOD CITIZENS" BACK TO THEIR HOMES IN ECHIDNAPOPOLIS!

BUT THE ONLY TRAGEDY THE DARK LEGIONNAIRE THEY CALL KOMMISSAR CAN SEE IS THAT OF THE ECHIDNA POPULATION NOW RESTORED BACK TO THE FLOATING ISLAND...

KNUCKLES HAS DONE FAR MORE THAN THAT, LIEN-DA!

REUNIFICATION PART II

ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE ONGOING SAGA OF SEGA'S EVER-POPULAR ECHIDNA. BROUGHT TO YOU BY
KEN PENDERS
SCRIPT LAYOUTS & INKS

DAWN BEST
PENCILS

VICKIE WILLIAMS
LETTERER

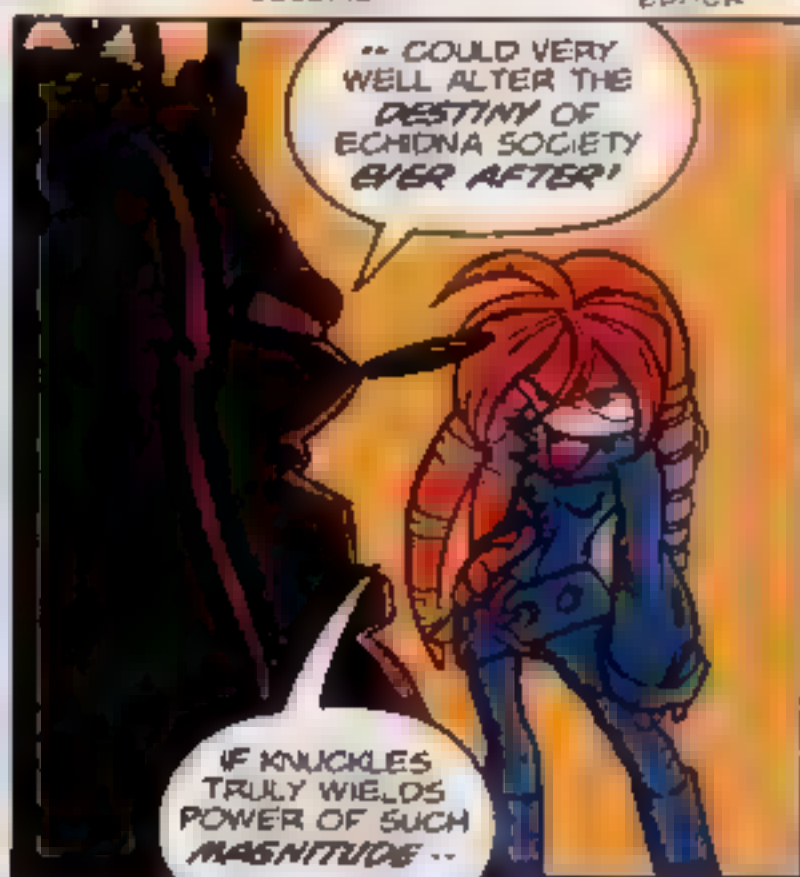
ROBBIE O'DUINN
COLORIST

JUSTIN GABRIEL
EDITOR



HE'S DEMONSTRATED MORE POWER IN THAT ONE ACT ALONE THAN I EVER DID IN MY EMERJAK PERSONA!

WHAT HE DOES NEXT --



-- COULD VERY WELL ALTER THE DESTINY OF ECHIDNA SOCIETY EVER AFTER!

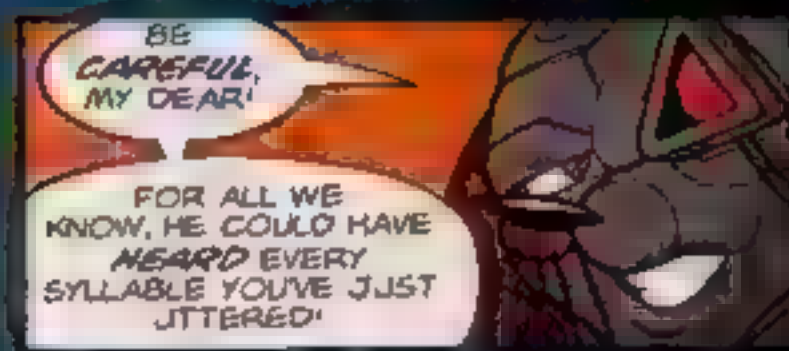
IF KNUCKLES TRULY WIELDS POWER OF SUCH MAGNITUDE --



THEN
WE NEED TO
TERMINATE HIM
AS **QUICKLY** AS
POSSIBLE BEFORE
IT'S TOO LATE!

THAT'S A **RISK**
I'M WILLING TO
ACCEPT, GREAT
GRANDFATHER!

WHAT'S **NEEDED**
MOST RIGHT NOW IS
A **PAWN** TO DO
MY BIDDING!



BE
CAREFUL,
MY DEAR!

FOR ALL WE
KNOW, HE COULD HAVE
HEARD EVERY
SYLLABLE YOU'VE JUST
JITTERED!



BUT
WHO?



I SEE A
NUMBER OF
CANDIDATES
ONSCREEN!

SURELY IT
WON'T BE THAT
HARD

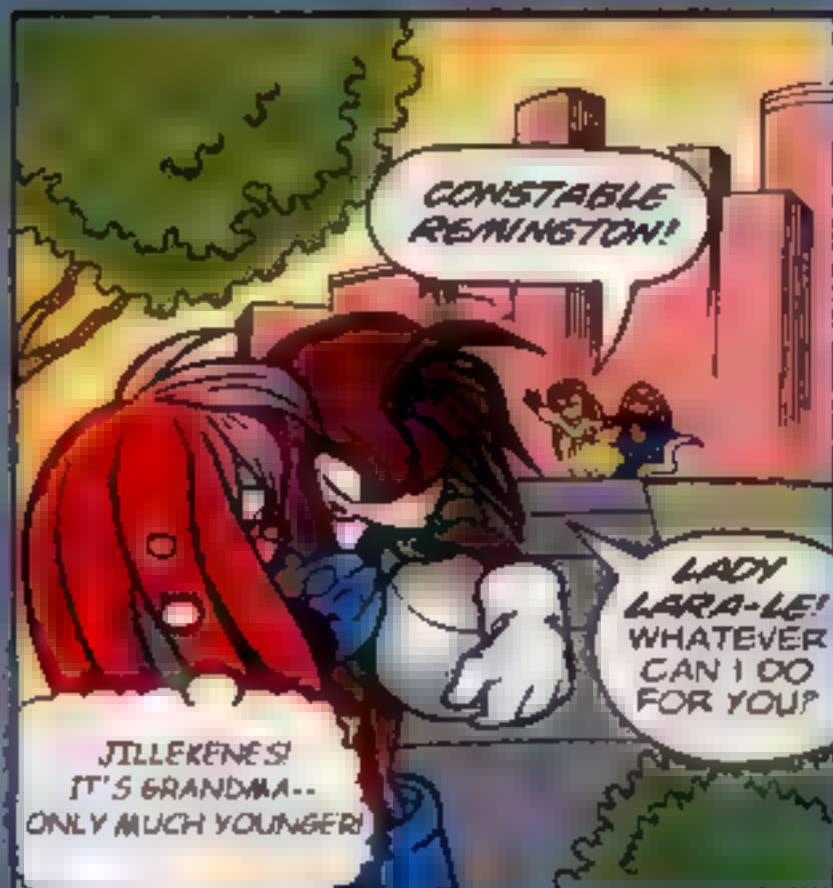
... TO PICK **ONE?**

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT,
MISS ... ?



JANI-GA!

CONSIDERING **WHERE** I
AM, TELLING **ANYONE**
MY **REAL** NAME WOULD
SOUND THE **ALARM!**

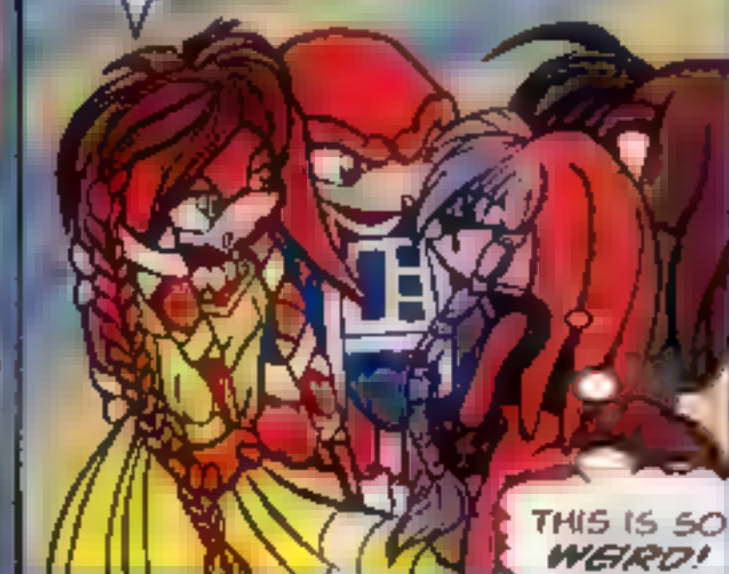


CONSTABLE
REMNINGTON!

LADY
LARA-LE!
WHATEVER
CAN I DO
FOR YOU?

JILLEKENESE!
IT'S GRANDMA--
ONLY MUCH YOUNGER!

WE'RE FINE, BUT
HAVE YOU ANY WORD CON-
CERNING KNUCKLES?



THIS IS SO
WEIRD!



NOT A
SIGN,
M'LADY!

I
WOULDN'T
WORRY,
THOUGH!

HE'S EITHER
TENDING TO HIS
BUSINESS --



-- OR ELSE HE'S
WITH THOSE
FRIENDS OF HIS..

WE'RE
BACK ON THE
ISLAND,
GUYS!

REALLY,
MIGHTY? WHAT
GAVE YOU THE
FIRST CLUE?



BUT NO SIGN OF
KNUCKLES --

-- OR
JULIE-SU!

LAST TIME
I SAW KNUX HE WAS
BUSTIN' HEADS WITH
THE DARK LEGION!



KNUX ON THE
SHORT END OF A
FIGHT, ESPIO?

THAT
DON'T SOUND
RIGHT!

THERE'S
ANOTHER
POSSIBLE
SCENARIO,
VECTOR

WHICH MAY INVOLVE HIS *RELATIONSHIPS* WITHIN THAT *UNDERGROUND BUNKER* OF THEIRS..

OUR SANCTUARY *HAVEN* VIRTUALLY *DESTROYED* --

NO EVIDENCE, SO JOURNER?

I SEE THE HANDIWORK OF *DIAMTRI* AND HIS *MINDLESS THUGS* EVERYWHERE YOU CARE TO LOOK!

-- AND NOT A SHRED OF EVIDENCE IN REGARDS TO THE *CAUSE*!

WE WERE IN PITCHED BATTLE AGAINST OUR *NEEMESIS* AT THE *GRAND CON-SERVATORY*!!

YET *HERE* WE STAND!

HOW? AND WHY?

AND WHAT ABOUT BROTHER *MATHIAS*? HE'S NO LONGER AMONG US!

NEITHER IS DEAR *HAWKINS*!

SPECTRE!

AS CHRONICLED IN THE PAGES OF *SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11* - JUSTIN.

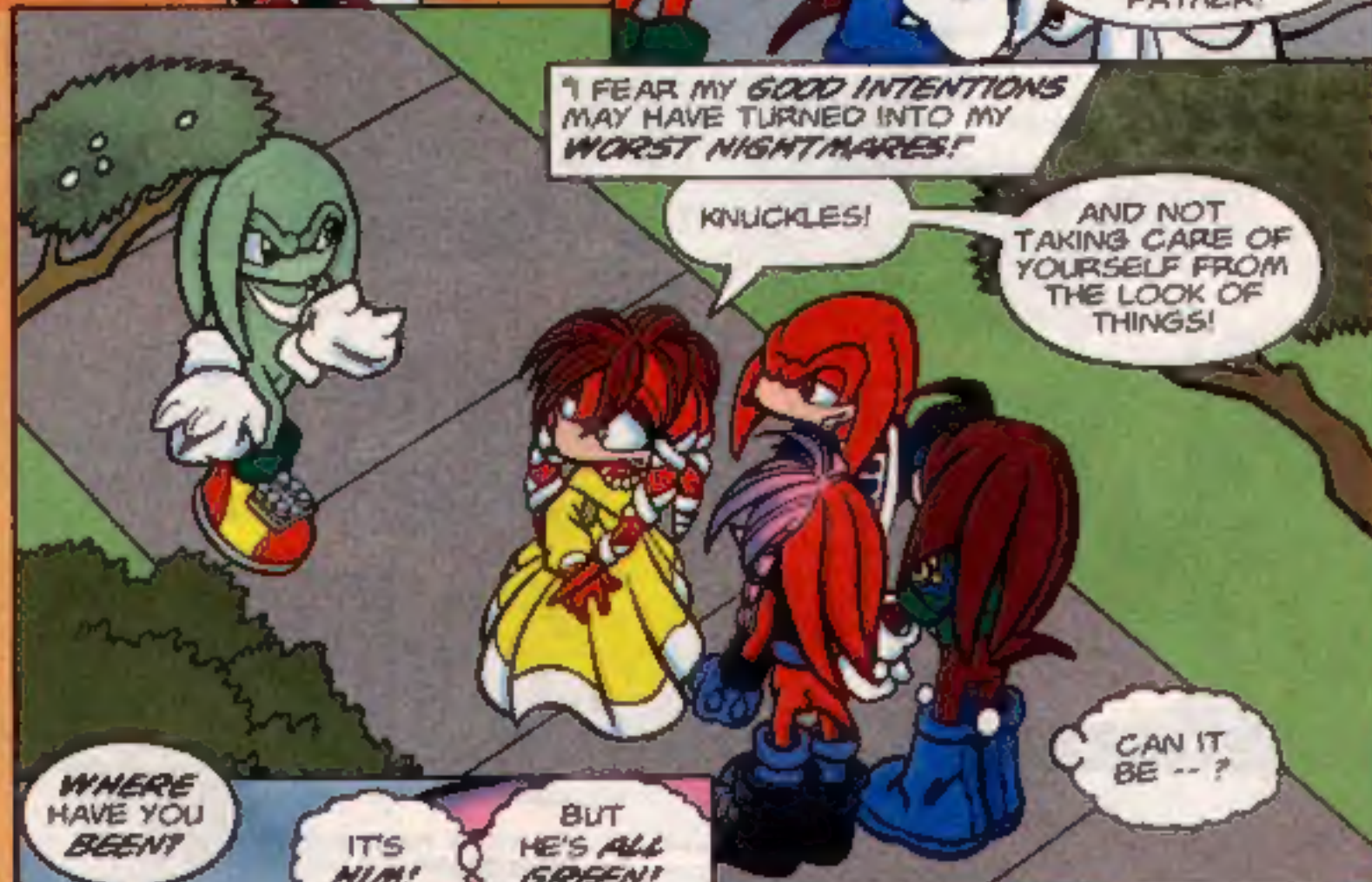
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IS *HAWKINS* -- ?

HE HAS JOINED WITH BROTHER *MATHIAS* UNTO THE *NEXT EVOLUTION*!

AND I SENSE *ANOTHER* AS JOINED THEM AS WELL!

WHO?

IS IT *KNUCKLES*?





SONIC-GRAMS

THIS JUST IN!

with
Karl
Bollers...

Hi there, Sonic fans!

Writer Karl Bollers here, welcoming you to another exciting editorial in which I'll hit you with the skinny on upcoming hedgehog-related happenings in and about the Archie offices.

Starting next issue, in **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #108**, we debut a brand new story format. Get this— 3 titanic tales every month! Ain't that a hoot, a holler, and a kick in the pants rolled up into one?

We'll always get the party started with an 11-pager featuring Sonic, Tails, Princess Sally and the Freedom Fighters as they continue to wage their struggle against Doctor Robotnik and other evil-doers on planet Mobius. Teaming up with regular penciler Ron Lim and also taking over the writing reins from yours truly, is newcomer Benny Lee, whose lighthearted take on the cast is sure to be a hit with Sonic fans around the world. Welcome aboard, Benny!

Following that will be a 5-page story that focuses not on Sonic, but on a different colorful supporting character every ish. You can definitely expect solo stories featuring Princess Sally, Mina the Mongoose, Rob o' the Hedge, Rouge the Bat and others in the near future. And each time, look forward to the lovingly rendered pencils of artist J. Axer to go along with it! Everyone at Archie is pleased as punch to have J. working on the series and so will you! And just who is the lucky writer that gets to work with Mister Axer, you ask? Hint #1: Well, let's just say that Ron Lim's loss is J.'s gain! Hint #2: Let's just say I'll have a bit more than this monthly editorial to write! Hint #3: Let's just say the lucky writer is none other than me!

And last, but certainly not least, Ken Penders and Dawn Best will slam brain pans and artistic palettes every month to bring you a senses-staggering, 6-page monthly installment in the ongoing saga of that radical red— err, we mean... emerald echidna known as Knuckles! Go, Ke-en! Go, Daw-awn! Go, Ke-en! Go, Daw-awn!

->Ahem<- We're a little excited around here. See ya next month! Hope you can stand the wait!

KB

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Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited.

Thanks For Understanding!



Next Issue:

Would ya believe... Robotnik versus Robotnik? But is it a diabolical scheme to do away with the Freedom Fighters, or is someone else about to lay claim to Mobius? Newcomer Benny Lee starts his run off with a bang, aided by Ron Lira in the visuals. Next up is the debut of another new Sonic artist who teams up with Rori Bollers to bring you the heart-wrenching tale of "A Girl Named Hope". (Well, Princess Sally was sure touched by her letter.) Lastly, things get tense in Echidnapolis as Dimitri makes his case before the High Council with the help of Knuckles in "Reunification Part III", with story and art by Ken and Dawn. See you in 30!

AND NOW, IT'S TIME CHECK THIS MONTH'S MAIL, AND FROM THE E-MAIL AND LETTERS POURING IN, IT LOOKS LIKE OUR RECENT 2-PARTER WAS A BIG HIT WITH THE MAJORITY OF YOU, STARTING WITH OUR FIRST CORRESPONDENT FROM CHISHOLM, MN:

Hello,

Being a HUGE fan of Jim Valentino's run on Guardians of the Galaxy for Marvel, I just HAD to pick up a copy of Sonic the Hedgehog #103, featuring the GOTG swipe/tribute story "Freedom Fighters of the Galaxy".

Back in 1998, I interviewed Mr. Valentino for Advanced Iron, focusing upon (among other things) the character of Taserface, a member of the race called "The Shark", who based their culture upon Tony Stark's greatest creation - the Iron Man armor. When I flipped through Sonic #103 and noticed that "The Shark" were featured on page 14, I almost cheered aloud in the comic store! Thank you!

In addition, a footnote on page 14 implores readers to ask for the origin of "The Shark". So... how about it?

The character of Sonic as Vance Astra/Major Victory is terrific, and the

creative team of Michael Gallagher, a notable GOTG himself, Valentino, Harve, Vickie Williams, Stephanie Vozzo and Justin Gabrie made the first installment of "Freedom Fighters of the Galaxy" a fun and interesting read.

I cannot wait for Sonic #104 and the conclusion to FFOTG!

Sincerely,

Mike Kalibabky

By now you should have read the conclusion to our little send-up, Mike, and I hope it too met with your approval. While Jim was unable to participate in regards to the art for #104, we think newcomer Dawn Best did a great job. Feel free to write back and let us know if you agree.

Dear Sonic Team,

In Sonic issue #101, "you guys" have a puzzle with Knux's family tree on it and said you would give the answers in the next issue, but I looked all through #104 and all I found was a puzzle with Sonics from other zones. So where are the answers???

Thanks,

Anneliesa M Kalfsbeek

Somewhere in the hidden city of Atlantis, Anneliesa. Seriously, when we were working on issue #104, it was during September of 2001, and we're all familiar with what happened during that timeframe. Subsequently, in the rush to get the book out, something got overlooked, and unfortunately the answers to the family tree never made it in. Look for the answers to both the family tree and the multiple Sonics to show up in Sonic #109.

Dear Sonic Crew,

I like the fact that the past two issues (Sonic #103 and #104) have been to relax things. That, and it was fun to see another reality. Another thing I kinda liked was that it was partly off of the "Silver Surfer". It was different and nice to see that. As always, Dawn did an awesome job. I'm also glad in the fact that she encouraged me to keep up with my artwork. God bless you Dawn! I also like "Altered States" in Sonic #101. I liked the introduction to the different realities there too. The one from the anime was one of my favorites, being I liked the movie itself.

I hope you guys keep going strong. I've only gotten into the comic recently. The reason is that Indiana has no places where I can find them. I enjoy them a lot and hope they keep on coming!

Shadow Bee

If you're having a hard time finding our comics at your local store, how about making life easier by subscribing using one of the handy-dandy forms conveniently located elsewhere within every issue? That way you're guaranteed not to miss out on all the fun and excitement we have in store for all our readers.

Dear Sonic,

I loved issue #103! I hope that the Freedom Fighters of the Galaxy will be appearing in the comic book series even after the current storyline is finished. (Except for Hawkhawk, he's a snob!)

Here are a few questions for y'all:

- (1) How come you and Walt the Wallaby don't get along?
- (2) Has Monkey Khan been seen since Sonic #55?
- (3) Who is Hawkhawk a descendant of?
- (4) What type of animal is Guro (of the Downunda Freedom Fighters)?
- (5) How many of 'bothead's goons does it take to screw in a light bulb?

That's it for now, so keep on juicin'!

James the Human

Another Sonic-based series? We're all for that, though we'd have to make some changes as there is a major world of difference between doing a one-time homage versus using the concept on a regular monthly basis. As to your questions, (1) you'll have to ask of Walt the answer to that one, which may turn up in an upcoming Sega Data File in some future issue, (2) several times, in fact, the most recent being issue #93 (or was it #92?), (3) probably a vain Freedom Fighter in the current set-up which we've yet to encounter, (4) he's an emu (don't ask) and (5) the world may never know. Take care.

Dear Sonic-Gramps,

Hi. I've been a Sonic fan for only a little while, ever since Sonic Adventure 2 came out. I've been looking at pictures of Sally and her family and I just can't figure out what they are. I had a few theories but they all vanished once I got a good look at Elias's tail and Sally's they're different. I've been wondering what Sally is, is she a hybrid? I also heard that she was a Ground Squirrel, could you set me right?

Thanks,

Andrea Price

P.S. Keep up the good work. I love the comic. By the way, Sonic's getting more and more popular, it may just be the comics but when I go to buy them I get like the last one on the shelf and there used to be tons!

Sally's father King Acorn is a squirrel. Queen Acorn, on the other hand, is a chipmunk. Elias took on squirrel traits while Sally took on the chipmunk traits. It's possible that squirrels and chipmunks have married in the past of the royal family line (therefore chipmunks would have traces of royal blood as well), but to know for sure can be a story for another time. Your letter also reminds me that I need to include what species the character is whenever I do other Sega Data Files in upcoming issues.

That's it for this month, so check back with us next time for more comments, compliments and criticisms. Take care.